

Airport opens at Mosul, Iraq

NICOSIA (AP) — A new airport in Iraq's northern city of Mosul was opened Monday, but it was not clear how the facility would be used, Iraq, banned from international flights under U.N. sanctions, has acknowledged that a lack of spare airplane parts hampers domestic flights. The country also has been warned against flying planes in northern Iraq under allied provisions for a Kurdish safe haven. The Iraqi News Agency reported that the minister of transport and communications, Abdul Sattar Ahmad Al Mouseni, opened the airport, built at a cost of three million Iraqi dinars (about \$9 million). The facility was built on 30,000 square metres and includes two lounges, a VIP wing, a restaurant and other facilities, the news agency said. The report said the airport was able to handle up to three planes at a time. Under allied provisions for the Kurdish safe haven, the Baghdad government is not supposed to fly aircraft north of the 36th parallel. Mosul, 450 kilometres north of Baghdad, is 40 kilometres north of the line. There was a civilian-military airport at Mosul that was badly damaged in the Gulf war.

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Tunisian prosecutor demands death penalties

TUNIS (R) — A military prosecutor in Tunisia on Monday demanded the death penalty for 19 alleged Muslim fundamentalists standing trial on charges of plotting to overthrow the government. The 19 — 10 of whom are being tried in absentia — include the main leaders of the banned Al Nahdha (renaissance) movement Sadok Chourou, Rashed Ghannouchi and Habib Elouaz. Mr. Ghannouchi is among those being tried in absentia. The military prosecutor also requested the maximum jail terms for the remaining defendants among a batch of 171 standing trial before the court. A total of 279 defendants are charged with either plotting to assassinate President Zine Al Abidine Ben Ali or overthrow his government as part of a plan to turn Tunisia into an Islamic state. The prosecution is expected to request sentences for a second batch of 108 defendants on Aug. 17. Most defendants have rejected the charges against them.

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Kuwait commutes death sentence to life term

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait's court of appeal on Monday commuted a death sentence passed on an Iraqi man convicted of collaborating with the Iraqi army to life in prison, the Kuwaiti News Agency said. The state security court found Mohsen Shauqat guilty last May of informing Iraq's seven-month occupation in exchange for money. It was the second time the appeals court had passed judgement since it was set up last year to ensure greater legal protection for accused collaborators. Last July, it cleared a stateless Arab who had been found guilty of collaboration. The agency said the court postponed judgement on three other cases until Sept. 14.

Request rejected for independent probe of Iraq policy

WASHINGTON (AP) — Attorney General William Barr Monday rejected a congressional request to appoint an independent counsel to investigate alleged misconduct by top officials of President George Bush's administration in U.S. dealings with Iraq prior to the 1991 Gulf war. "There is no basis," for such a probe, Mr. Barr said in letter to the house Judiciary committee.

Gendarme shot dead south of Algiers

ALGIERS (R) — A paramilitary gendarme died of wounds in an army hospital on Monday after being shot by three assailants as he stepped out of a pharmacy, the state radio reported. Quoting gendarme sources, the radio said gendarme Maroud Amouche, 22, received several bullet wounds when attacked in Saoula, 28 kilometres south of Algiers. His attackers fled in a car. It is the first attack on a member of the gendarmes since the beginning of June. Since then the police have become the main targets of attackers and ambushes.

Britain sends warship for Gulf wargames

LONDON (R) — Britain said on Monday it was sending a warship to the Gulf to take part in military exercises with Kuwait. The Ministry of Defence in London said the destroyer Edinburgh with a troop of marines aboard was being deployed to the northern Gulf for two or three weeks. "Whilst in the area Edinburgh will visit Kuwait and conduct training and exercises with the Kuwaiti armed forces, in which the royal marines will participate," a ministry statement said.

Afghan premier visits Iran

NICOSIA (AP) — Afghan Prime Minister Ustad Abdul Saboor Farid arrived in Tehran Monday, for discussions aimed at putting an end to factional fighting that has turned Kabul into a battleground. The Islamic Republic News Agency said Mr. Farid was received at Tehran's Mehrabad airport by Iranian vice-President Hassan Habibi. Mr. Farid, a member of the radical Hezb-e-Islami faction in Afghanistan's Islamic interim government, arrived in Tehran from Pakistan. He told reporters at the airport that he was in Tehran for discussions with "Muslim friends" aimed at urging Pakistan and Iran to exercise influence over factions inside the interim government locked in an internecine battle.

Kuwaiti minister visits Egypt

CAIRO (R) — Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Sheikh Salem Sabah Al Salem met Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak on Monday and told Cairo Television they had discussed Iraq's renewed claim to his country. Sheikh Salem said he and Mr. Mubarak also discussed the Damascus declaration, an agreement in March 1991 by the Arab members of the anti-Iraq coalition which had been expected to produce a permanent Egyptian and Syrian role in the defence of the Gulf.

King calls for Arab World order based on democracy

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein on Monday called for a new Arab World order that would be independent from Western hegemony and based on democracy and respect for human rights. "Today, Arabs are faced with two options," King Hussein told a group of army officers at a graduation ceremony of the Royal War Academy. "Either a new strong Arab World order... based on truth, freedom, justice, democracy and compassion that would protect their land, resources and dreams. Or, a regional order dependent on others, which aims at peacetraining the Arab body, plundering its resources and oppressing the people's will," King Hussein added.

"We realise that we exist in a non-oil producing land but we

have built a coherent society and we have set the basis for our pioneering democratic experiment....," the King said. "Arabs have to open up a path for their freedom, unity, independence and new democratic systems," the King said. "Maoikod is now at the threshold of a vague and unclear stage and our Arab Nation is at a loss as it continues to face practices of hatred and a return to the abhorrent pre-Islamic era, allowing our enemies to enter its worn out and undefended gates, further weakening the nation by forces by forces intent on looting its wealth and resources...." "This nation has no alternative to taking stock of its present situation benefiting from bitter experiences of the recent past and ought to rise above its injuries and narrow selfish regional in-

terests," King Hussein said. "To deal with the new stage world situation the Arabs need to fulfil two conditions: First it should have full faith in its living unity of conscience, ideology, culture, language and history and support what is right and just and uphold human rights and democracy. Second it should rise above all forms of bigotry and narrow-mindedness and regional selfish interests. It should also give up all forms of oppression, distortion of facts and monopoly over wealth and falsification of information." The King indirectly criticised Egypt for trying to isolate Jordan after the Gulf war ended, despite Amman's role in bringing Cairo back to the Arab fold 10 years after its 1979 peace treaty with Israel. "We have been patient vis-a-vis the misunderstanding and the

slander we have forced from others hoping they might realise their mistakes," he said, referring to repeated criticism of Jordan for its perceived sympathy for Iraq in the Gulf crisis. "I am talking especially about those whom we have helped enter the Arab World from its widest gate and who later found themselves alien to its values and left through the windows trying to outbid us," he said, apparently referring to Egypt. King Hussein criticised the disarray in Arab ranks caused by differing stances during the Gulf crisis. The King tried to mediate a peaceful solution to the crisis and opposed the military option advocated by oil-rich Gulf states. Jordan's position, coupled with

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New university to focus on Islam

By Ella Nasrallah
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein Monday announced plans to establish a new university named "Al al Bait University for Arts and Sciences," noting that it would be his gift to the Arab and Islamic nations. The King made the announcement at a graduation ceremony of a batch of army officers from the Royal War College. He said His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan would chair the new university's constituent assembly, which would include elite scholars from the Arab and Islamic worlds. "We want this institution to

serve as a minaret for reform based on intellect, reason, free expression, and free initiative and tolerance," the King said. "We want this high institution to serve as a bearer of the standards of justice which the vanguards of the Islamic Umma like Ibn Khaldun and his companions had struggled to achieve," said the King. He said the new university would contribute towards enabling Islam's tolerant and enlightened principles to cater to the human needs of justice and freedom. Referring to the endeavours of the early leaders of Islam and

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U.N. inspectors keep work in Iraq secret

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — U.N. weapons inspectors pursued their work in Iraq on Monday but were secretive about the sites they are visiting in a possible bid to improve Iraqi cooperation. The team, the first to go to Iraq since a controversial inspection of the Ministry of Agriculture in Baghdad, completed its second 10-hour working day without problems, members of the team said. Nikita Smidovich, the first Russian to head a U.N. arms inspection team in Iraq, told reporters everything went smoothly but would not say where he had been or planned to go next. Asked whether he expected his remaining week in Iraq to be as

calm as the first two days, Mr. Smidovich said: "Yes, we expect that it will be normal inspection activities for us." Asked whether his team would challenge Iraq by trying to enter a ministry, Mr. Smidovich replied: "Our mission is not to challenge the Iraqis. We are conducting inspections. This is our mission." Iraq promised under Gulf war ceasefire terms to destroy under U.N. supervision its nuclear, poison gas and germ warfare weapons and long range missiles. It delayed U.N. inspection of the Ministry of Agriculture for three weeks last month and declared on Thursday it would allow no more ministries to be searched.

Over 1,000 casualties feared in Kabul rocketing

KABUL (Agencies) — Dissident guerrillas launched their heaviest rocket bombardment on Kabul on Monday, possibly causing more than 1,000 casualties, a Defence Ministry spokesman said. But the spokesman could not say how many among the casualties were killed by the hundreds of rockets he said were rained on the capital by a hardline Mujahideen group, which is partner in the three-month-old Islamic government.

Diplomats said it was the heaviest pounding of Kabul since the Afghan civil war began 14 years ago. The guerrillas took Kabul in April. The government said it had repulsed the dawn offensive by the Hezb-e-Islami party of hardline guerrilla leader Gulbuddin Hekmatyar. "The army has advanced to most of the places from which firing brought great bloodshed to the people to Kabul," Defence Ministry spokesman Haji Delili said. But late on Monday there were still sporadic sounds of shells and bursts of gunfire from nervous troops on the streets. Most people stayed indoors hoping the

fighting had died down for the day at least. Islamabad, a Hezb-e-Islami commander, had said earlier that his rebels launched their offensive to counter attacks by pro-government troops. Defence Ministry officials refused to comment on the charge. Thousands of frightened residents commandeered donkeys, horse-drawn carts and battered old trucks to flee the capital during the overnight bombardment. Several witnesses said they saw dozens of bodies partially buried in the rubble of northeastern neighbourhoods destroyed by the incessant rocketing. Doctors fled a government-run hospital in the heart of the worst-hit area, leaving behind hundreds of screaming patients, said another witness. The Red Cross Hospital was forced to suspend surgery after shells hit it on Saturday, agency spokesman Jean-Michel Monod said. He said the hospital treated at least 700 people over the weekend, but he could not say how many of those had died. One Western military expert

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Bush, Rabin aim to strengthen ties

KENNEBUNKPORT, Maine (R) — President George Bush welcomed Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin to his seaside holiday home on Monday for talks expected to bring agreement on a multi-billion dollar U.S. loan guarantee package for Israel. Mr. Rabin was to be Mr. Bush's overnight house guest, signalling that a new era of cordiality was replacing the acrimonious relationship between the president and hardline former Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir. "The welcome mat is out," Mr. Bush said. "Prime Minister Rabin has many friends in the United States, including the man he is standing next to. And we are looking forward to strengthening a relationship that is strong and will be even stronger." Mr. Rabin told reporters: "No doubt we would like to make sure

that there is a better and more intimate relationship between our two countries, our two peoples and our two governments." And let's hope that this visit will give the chance to at least make clear where we stand, what we can do together to achieve these goals." The Israeli leader also said he was determined to give the Middle East peace process a real chance "without endangering Israeli security." A new round of peace talks is expected to begin in Washington on Aug. 24. It will be the first round of talks since Mr. Rabin was elected over Mr. Shamir. Signalling a change from the Shamir government, Mr. Rabin said his Labour Party would "like to change the order of our national priorities" and that real prob-

Israel vows to block settlement attempts

TEL AVIV (AP) — The Israeli cabinet on Monday condemned Jewish settlers' attempts to build illegal housing in defiance of a construction curb in the occupied territories and ordered the army to block such efforts. Deputy Housing Minister Ran Cohen accused settlers who put up an illegal structure Sunday of trying to torpedo peace efforts just before Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin was to hold his first meetings with U.S. President George Bush. Mr. Rabin and George Bush, meeting Monday at the president's main vacation home, were expected to discuss the peace process and Israel's request for U.S. housing loan guarantees, both of which are linked to the settlement issue. The Bush administration postponed granting the guarantees last year to protest Israel's drive to build Jewish settlements,

which Mr. Bush views as obstacles to peace. Since taking office July 13, Mr. Rabin has frozen plans for more than 5,000 new houses in the occupied areas. Jewish settlers have vowed to resist his policy. On Sunday, about 300 settlers put up the makeshift house near the West Bank town of Hebron. Dozens barricaded themselves inside in a clash with the army, and one settler was injured and 10 detained before the settlers agreed to leave. The scene — soldiers surrounding Jews in a building bedecked with Israeli flags — was reminiscent of protests which kicked off the settler movement in the 1970s. At the time, Mr. Rabin, in his first term as prime minister, buckled under their pressure and permitted some settlements to be

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Tafleeh deputy resigns to protest 'corruption' indictment by House

By Suhair Obaidat
Special to the Jordan Times

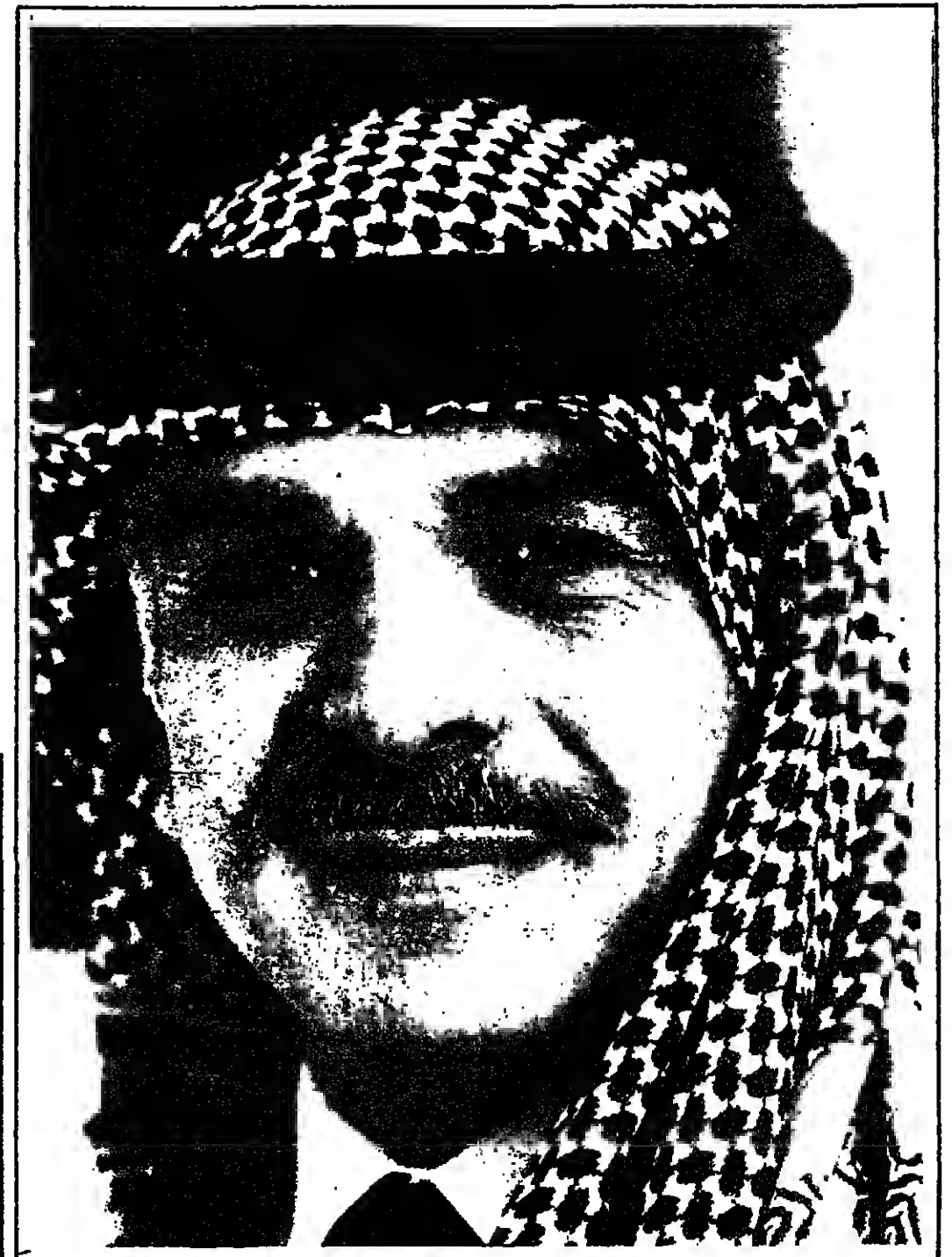
AMMAN — Tafleeh Deputy Fuad Tafleeh said Monday he has submitted his resignation to the Lower House of Parliament in protest of its indictment last Monday of former Minister of Public Works Mahmoud Hawamdeh for alleged misuse of public office in a highway project. Mr. Khalafat, a member of the Muslim Brotherhood movement, and a native of Mr. Hawamdeh's hometown, Tafleeh said he submitted his resignation on Sunday because the Lower House indicted Mr. Hawamdeh but acquitted former Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, and Finance Minister Hanna Odeh. "Parliament's decision to only indict Mr. Hawamdeh and acquit



Fuad Khalafat
other officials was unfair," said Khalafat, a civil engineer. "This move has created a wide rift between us (lawmakers) and the people." To last Monday's ses-

sion, Mr. Khalafat voted for the indictment of both Mr. Rifai and Mr. Odeh but against indicting Mr. Hawamdeh. "If Rifai is innocent, then who is corrupt in this country?" Mr. Khalafat asked. The resignation should be endorsed by House Speaker Abdul Latif Arabiyat, also a Brotherhood member. A majority of 54 votes in the House is needed to make the resignation effective. Party officials said that Mr. Khalafat has not consulted his move to resign with the Brotherhood's leadership. Abdullah Akayleh, a leading Brotherhood member, and also a Tafleeh deputy, said that Mr. Khalafat's resignation "bears serious consequences" on his mem-

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Jordan marks 40th anniversary of King's accession to the throne

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — When a 17-year-old wearing army uniform was formally proclaimed King of Jordan in 1952, scepticism was expressed by many over the continuity of the monarchy and the future of the Kingdom given the political currents sweeping the region. But that scepticism was not only short-lived but also had to make way for admiration as the Sandhurst graduate confounded all predictions to survive skillfully some of the gravest crises that heads of state would have ever confronted and guide his country to an unparalleled rate of progress, given its limited natural resources. He has become not only one of the longest-reigning monarchs in the world in an age where monarchies have had to give way for other political systems, but also an ardent advocate and guide for democracy to set an example in a region where autocracies and single-party rules have become a way of life. There are sentiments expressed by not only many Jordanians but also Western observers and diplomats on the eve of the 40th anniversary of His Majesty King Hussein's accession to the throne.

These people do not belittle the gravity of the political and economic challenges facing Jordan today. But there is consensus among them that the King had the foresight to foresee the immense challenges and skillfully prepared the country and its people to withstand the test of time, whether in the context of efforts to reach a political settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict or to ensure stability and progress of Jordan among sometimes unpredictable neighbours in a volatile area of the world. Leading Jordanian personalities such as parliamentarians, heads of popular organisations and notable figures issued glowing tributes to the King on the occasion of his accession to the throne. Noted in these tributes were the Arabisation of the Jordanian army, the Kingdom's continued care for the Islamic holy shrines in the occupied territories, the King's even-handed approach to all religions, his liberal policies towards the media, and, above all, the democratisation process under way in Jordan. Upper House of Parliament Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi described the King as a "national

leader who achieved numerous gains for the country," and said "it would be difficult to enumerate them since they are so many since the history and development of Jordan owe themselves to King Hussein." "Jordan's history in the past four decades and the developments we witnessed during that period testify to the achievements we witnessed during that period testify to the achievements of King Hussein," Mr. Lawzi said. "One of the most remarkable achievements of the King was the Arabisation of the army when His Majesty transferred the leadership of the armed forces from foreign hands to Arab hands." According to Sheikh Abdul Hameed Sayeh, speaker of the Palestine National Council (PNC), the anniversary of the King's accession to the throne "reminds Arabs and Muslims in general and Palestinians in particular of the King's continued honourable endeavours to unify the Arabs in resisting the Zionist enemy in liberate the occupied territories." "Muslims and Arabs remember the stands of His Majesty on

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On the Occasion of His Majesty King Hussein's accession to the Throne



ARAB BANK

has the honour to convey to

HIS MAJESTY KING HUSSEIN

its felicitations and most cordial wishes

Peace talks and Palestinian uprising — a turning point

By Haniham Hamad
The Associated Press

RAMALLAH, Occupied West Bank — Amar Abdul Hadi's bride, Nada, wore a white gown and was driven through the graffiti-scarred streets in a Mercedes decked with flowers and balloons.

A few months ago, such a showy wedding would have been impossible, a break with the code of sacrifice Palestinians accepted in their "intifada" against Israeli occupation.

Now, the uprising that began nearly five years ago is at a turning point.

Middle-class Palestinians are weary of the violence. With Arab-Israeli peace talks resuming later this month in Washington, there is a glimmer of hope for better days. Many desperately want a return to normal life.

In the occupied territories, the music of Arab bands breaks the night silence. Sports clubs and restaurants are reopening. Children are going off to summer day camps.

Even in the misery of the Gaza Strip, there are family picnics. A few new stores have opened and merchants cautiously keep later hours than those dictated in uprising leaflets.

Still, Jewish settlers watch for stones as they pass through towns like Ramallah. Rocks and firebombs still fly, and soldiers respond with gunfire.

To the army's dismay, more Palestinians are using guns. Al Fajr, an English-language Palestinian weekly, keeps an intifada diary. From the last week in July, firebombs thrown at a car in Ramallah, 12-year-old shot by soldiers during a stoning, 14-year-old Jewish settler stabbed, shots fired at

an army base, a police station firebombed.

Parts of the revolt have become routine, like general strikes that shut stores at least twice a month. Some Palestinians now use strike day for family picnics, instead of staying home.

Israelis, too, have accepted the uprising as a part of life. Few Jews shop in Arab East Jerusalem on weekends, as they once did. The government pays to install plastic windows in the cars of Jewish settlers, as protection against stones.

The anger continues. Stabbings and stonings spur settlers on rampages into Arab villages, where they smash and shoot out windows. A soldier's killing of a Palestinian can set off violent protests, albeit smaller than in the revolt's early years.

Palestinians believe the up-

heaval made peace talks possible, forcing the Palestine Liberation Organisation to moderate its stance towards Israel and putting international pressure on the Israeli government to make peace.

They see an inconsistency in the persistent violence and a longing for the good old days of family picnics, parties, even trips to Israel's beaches.

Abdul Hadi, 25, said he planned his wedding after attending several other lavish marriages and deciding life could not be all politics.

"There is no fun when you do not have a social life," he said. "You can work, have fun and confront your enemy all at the same time."

At his wedding and others like it, the music is nationalistic and the folk dance is meant to symbolise Palestinian tradition. The lyrics of songs are more about "biladi" — my

country, than "habibi" — my darling.

Some Israelis see the renewed Palestinian social life as a sign the revolt is dead. But others fear an end to mass protest will mean more armed attacks on Israelis.

Army statistics give weight to the concern. Through July, the army counted 14,875 "general disturbances" — stone throwings, tire burnings, blocked roads and the like — compared to 33,400 in all of last year and about 67,000 in 1990.

By contrast, there were more shooting incidents — 148 — than the 131 in all of 1991. The total for 1990 was 85.

Yechiel Leiter, a settler leader, said he detected a weariness with the uprising among average Palestinians, but "I think the terrorist cells, the hard-core, will intensify their operations in the future,

not diminish them."

"It comes in waves," he said. "There is a lull, then there's greater intensity."

Faisal Hussein, a senior figure in the occupied lands, said the intifada was taking a new shape, not ending.

"The movement of the intifada and the changes the intifada succeeded in making in the minds of the people are still there," he said in an interview.

Mr. Hussein, chief adviser to the Palestinian peace talks delegation, said negotiators will continue rejecting Israeli pleas to end the revolt unless Israel eases its hold on Palestinians' lives.

He said the last Israeli government was given conditions for ending the uprising: Stopping expulsions, demolition of activists' houses and jailing without trial.

Nixon sees 'window of opportunity for peace'

NEW YORK (AP) — Former President Richard Nixon said Sunday after meeting with new Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin that there is a "window of opportunity" for peace in the Mideast.

"I believe the chances for a comprehensive peace settlement in the Middle East are better now than they've been at any time in 45 years," Mr. Nixon told reporters after meeting Mr. Rabin privately for an hour at the Israeli prime minister's hotel.

"Now that doesn't mean a great deal, because they have never been very hopeful in the past."

"But because of what has happened in what was the Soviet Union, what has happened in the Gulf and so forth, (that) creates a window of opportunity," Mr. Nixon said.

Mr. Rabin's election earlier this year ended years of Ultra-conservative Likud Party rule by Yitzhak Shamir, who had vowed never to give up an inch of the occupied West Bank or Gaza Strip.

Mr. Rabin's Labour Party government, installed on July 13, is willing to negotiate a land-for-peace deal with its Arab neighbours, giving up some territory.

Mr. Nixon hailed Mr. Rabin as "the right man in the right place at the right time," noting he has been a diplomat, prime minister, and defence minister for Israel.

The two men have been friends since first meeting in 1966. Peace negotiations are scheduled to resume in Washington on Aug. 24, the sixth in a series of talks that began last October in Madrid and continued with four rounds in Washington.

Mr. Rabin was to meet President George Bush on Monday to discuss Israel's request for the United States to guarantee \$10 billion in housing loans over a five-year period.

Mr. Rabin refused to discuss the possibility of reconfirming the loan guarantee before his talks with Mr. Bush. "The issues should be dealt with in that meeting," he said.

Mr. Bush froze the loan guarantees when the previous Likud government wouldn't halt a settlement-building drive. U.S. policy considers the settlements an obstacle to a land-for-peace to end the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Mr. Rabin suspended plans for more than 5,500 planned Jewish houses in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

On another subject, Mr. Rabin challenged European nations to bring peace to Bosnia-Herzegovina before telling Israel how to solve its dispute with the Arabs.

"We hear from time to time (from) Europe, the European Community, about ways to assist Israel to achieve peace. I believe charity starts at home, and therefore let's see what Europe can do with the U.N., without the U.N., to cope with a problem which is a European problem," Mr. Rabin said.

Israel has offered to send food and medicine to Bosnia through the United Nations.

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

3 Swedes die in road accident in Turkey

ANTALYA, Turkey (AP) — Three Swedes were killed and 39 people were injured Sunday when a tourist bus collided with a truck near this Mediterranean resort city, Anatolia news agency said. The accident reportedly occurred near the Antalya airport 10 kilometres from here, the agency said. The agency identified those killed as Richard K. Vikstrom, Sofia Hjort and Lars Gustavson. Another 39 people were hospitalised, 11 of them in critical condition, it said.

Skinheads attack Yemeni diplomat in Budapest

BUDAPEST (R) — About 20 Hungarian skinheads attacked a Yemeni diplomat in Budapest at the weekend but fled when he revealed his "diplomatic status," police said on Monday. Ahmad Hamad Alahad, cultural secretary at the Yemeni embassy, was admitted to hospital with light injuries after being beaten on Saturday, a police official said. A Zairean diplomat was attacked in Budapest last month, and police later arrested four people. Earlier this year, coloured students demonstrated in front of Hungary's parliament saying they were not getting adequate protection against attacks by skinheads. "We've had 24 attacks against coloured people this year in Budapest," said Gyorgy Gabriel, head of the Budapest police's juvenile department. "But we caught the attackers in half of the cases." Police estimate there are 4,000 skinheads in Hungary, where racially-motivated violence has multiplied since the switch from communism to multi-party democracy two years ago.

Two Israeli soldiers killed in exercise

TEL AVIV (AP) — Two Israeli soldiers were killed during an army rescue exercise when a crane cable snapped, the army announced Monday. The accident occurred Sunday in southern Israel, the statement said. The exercise involved rescuing people with the help of a crane and a helicopter, the army said. First findings showed that a technical problem in the crane caused the cable to snap, it said. The two men fell and were killed, Israel Radio said. The army chief of staff, Ehud Barak, asked two investigative committees to examine what went wrong, the army said. He also ordered an immediate halt to any exercises with a similar degree of potential danger to troops.

Columnist for pro-Kurdish newspaper wounded

SANLIURFA, Turkey (AP) — A columnist for a pro-Kurdish newspaper was wounded in an attack in the town of Ceylanpinar in this southeastern province Sunday, the semi-official Anatolia news agency said. Huseyin Deniz, a columnist for the Istanbul-based Ozgur Gundem, was shot by unknown gunmen in the street as he walked to work, the report said. The attackers escaped. Mr. Deniz was the sixth Kurdish journalist attacked this year in the Kurdish-dominated southeastern region. No one has claimed responsibility for the attacks. Yusuf Serhat Bucak, an owner of the newspaper, said Mr. Deniz had received death threats from anonymous telephone callers in recent days. Mr. Deniz also belonged to the Kurdish political party, People's Labour Party (HEP), which supports the activities of the Kurdish group PKK. PKK has been battling for self-rule since 1984. More than 4,100 people have been killed in the fighting. Fighting has been particularly fierce lately between the PKK and the Hizbollah, a Kurdish Muslim group.

Demjanjuk case shifts to U.S.

CINCINNATI (R) — Accused war criminal John Demjanjuk's legal fight to execution in Israel shifts on Tuesday to a U.S. court.

Three judges will consider whether newly uncovered evidence helpful to Demjanjuk's case should have stopped them from permitting his extradition to the Jewish state in 1986 to face charges that he was "Ivan the Terrible," a death camp guard.

The sixth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Cincinnati wants to hear from the U.S. Justice Department, which sought his extradition, and from lawyers for the Ukrainians-born Demjanjuk, 72, who was taken from his home in Cleveland where he settled after World War II.

Israel's supreme court is due to rule, perhaps as early as next month, on Demjanjuk's appeal against his 1988 conviction and sentence to hang for his role at the Treblinka camp.

At issue are newly uncovered statements by 37 Treblinka guards and by several civilians suggesting "Ivan the Terrible" was not the accused, then known as Ivan Demjanjuk, but another man named Ivan Marchenko.

The Cincinnati court reopened the extradition case after learning of the new statements, coupled with allegations that the Justice Department covered up evidence it knew of Marchenko before the United States handed Demjanjuk over to Israel.

Demjanjuk, now in solitary confinement in Israel, denies being "Ivan the Terrible" or ever setting foot in Treblinka, where "Ivan the Terrible" tortured prisoners and ran the gas chambers that asphyxiated 870,000 people.



John Demjanjuk

He says he is a victim of mistaken identity who was himself a Nazi prisoner of war and disputes past documentation that he was, at the very least, a guard at other Nazi camps.

The new evidence, taken in the years 1944-1962 from witnesses many of whom have since died, contrasts sharply with the testimony of five Jewish camp survivors who identified Demjanjuk as "Ivan" at his Israeli trial.

Israel obtained the bulk of its new evidence from KGB files following the collapse of the Soviet Union and subsequent improved relations with Moscow.

Attorneys for Demjanjuk will tell the court that both the new evidence and an apparent cover-up by U.S. government prosecutors warrant Demjanjuk's return to the United States, where he could be permitted to live out his life.

"Department of Justice attorneys had their files strong evi-

dence to show that another person named Ivan Marchenko was the Treblinka death camp gas chamber motor operator known as ... Ivan the Terrible," Demjanjuk's lawyers told the court last week.

"The government's failure to disclose this information ... while at the same time asserting that Demjanjuk was Ivan the Terrible, amounted to fraud on the court," his attorneys said.

The Justice Department admitted in June that it had evidence on Marchenko 14 years ago which might have helped Demjanjuk. The department insisted, however, that the material had been misplaced and that there had been no fraud.

It told the court last month that "ample evidence supports the conclusion that Demjanjuk is Ivan the Terrible ... none of the survivors has recanted."

The Justice Department argued that the court's role in an extradition proceeding was limited.

"In this case Demjanjuk's guilt or innocence will properly be determined by the Israeli courts," it said.

Demjanjuk's lawyers fear the supreme court in Israel will seize on new evidence to find him guilty simply for being a guard at Sobibor camp.

Demjanjuk's lawyers argue that he was handed over to Israel only to be tried as "Ivan" of Treblinka.

But the Justice Department said the United States had officially informed the Israeli government it expected Demjanjuk to be tried only for those offences for which he was extradited.

Shin Bet accused over prison death

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — A lawyer for the family of a detained Palestinian said on Sunday Israel's Shin Bet secret police investigators were responsible for his death in custody last week.

Lawyer Tamar Peleg said Mustafa Mahmoud Barakat, 24, was healthy when he reported to Tel Aviv prison for questioning last Monday and died on Tuesday.

She said an independent pathologist found Mr. Barakat died of an asthma attack but she believed the people who detained him were responsible for his health.

"Whoever holds someone by force in an investigation facility is responsible for his wellbeing," she said. "If the man who is held by force dies, the detainer is suspect, not of murder, but manslaughter or negligence."

Police declined to comment on the matter.

Mr. Barakat was the fourth known Palestinian to die after interrogation by the Shin Bet this year. Palestinian prisoners and

human rights groups accuse the Shin Bet of torture.

Ms. Peleg said Mr. Barakat had suffered from asthma since childhood but had been healthy for the last eight years. She said his family told her his asthma had been triggered by allergies, especially to smells, and emotional stress.

Ms. Barakat's sister told Ms. Peleg he had bought an inhaler device to take with him to the interrogation. When he reported to the prison he told the doctor he was asthmatic.

Ms. Peleg said it was routine practice for the Shin Bet to place Palestinian detainees in a standing position against a wall, with their hands tied and their heads hooded.

She said the police had given her confused accounts of Mr. Barakat's interrogation and refused to comment on whether they had put a hood on his head.

Ms. Peleg said Mr. Barakat had suffered one or two asthma

attacks during his detention.

She quoted the pathologist, Dr. Edward McDonough, deputy chief medical examiner for the State of Connecticut, as saying there was a high likelihood the detention caused Mr. Barakat's death.

"He said he was impressed a healthy person went in and a dead person came out," she said.

Last February another prisoner, Mustapha Abdallah Akawi, 35, died in a Shin Bet interrogation ward. Israel said he died of a heart attack.

An independent pathologist said the heart attack was triggered by exposure to extreme cold, sleep deprivation and inadequate medical care during interrogation. There were signs of beatings on his body.

A 1987 commission of inquiry into Shin Bet interrogation practices condemned the use of "moderate physical pressure" on detainees.

Libya seeks delay in sanctions review

TUNIS (R) — Libya is seeking postponement of an Aug. 15 Security Council meeting which is due to consider tightening U.N. sanctions if Tripoli continues to refuse to hand over two airline bombing suspects, diplomats said on Monday.

Libya had told U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Ghali it wanted a four-month delay to try to reach a compromise with the United States, Britain and France who want to put the two on trial, a senior Tripoli-based diplomat said by telephone.

"Given the fact that the Security Council is busy with the Bosnia and Iraq crises, it is not excluded that a postponement, but for only two months, would be discussed at the U.N.," another diplomat told Reuters.

The diplomats said Tripoli was sending envoys to several Security Council members, including France and China, to try to gain their support for its request. Libyan officials contacted by phone from Tunis declined comment.

The council slapped an air and arms embargo on Libya on April 15 because it failed to surrender two nationals, accused of blowing up a Pan Am airliner over Lockerbie, Scotland, in 1988.

It also ordered Libya to cooperate with investigations into the bombing of a French UTA plane over Niger in 1989.

"Tripoli was also asked to end all involvement with terrorism," the diplomats said they are willing to find a formula to implement the Security Council resolution, but we feel that there is no great sense of urgency for them, to act, a Western diplomat said.

Election fever sweeps Lebanon after 20-year absence

By Bouna Abu Nasr
The Associated Press

BEIRUT — In this city more accustomed to bullets than ballots, Nihal Hussein had an unannounced visit from a group of strangers the other night.

They offered to give her five children scholarships. There was only one condition: Mrs. Hussein, her husband and their three children, who are over 21 should vote for their benefactor, Ahmad Traboulsi.

Mr. Traboulsi is one of the scores of candidates campaigning for Lebanon's first general elections in 20 years, to be held on three consecutive Sundays from Aug. 23 to Sept. 6.

Mrs. Hussein, 42, a middle-class Shiite Muslim, dismissed the visit with a laugh. "It's just like the old days," she said. In Lebanon, "the old days" mean a time when people elected a parliament. A time before Syrian and Israeli

troops carved up the country. A time before 15 years of civil war left 150,000 people dead. A time before a president, a prime minister and other politicians were assassinated by bombs.

The election is for a 128-seat parliament — half-Christian, half-Muslim, to more accurately reflect the makeup of this country of four million people. It would end the automatic supremacy the Maronite Catholics have enjoyed since Lebanon's independence from France in 1943.

The new parliament is expected to carry out more political reforms stipulated in the Arab-brokered peace agreement that ended Lebanon's 1975-90 civil war.

Nearly all the country has been swept up in an election fever far more intense than before. Only the Christian heartland in east Beirut and north of the capital remain aloof.

Right-wing Christian leaders have denounced President Elias Hrawi's intentions to hold general elections before the 40,000-member Syrian army withdraws from Beirut and other major cities.

They fear that elections with the Syrians in control of two-thirds of Lebanon's territory would produce a rubber-stamp, pro-Syrian parliament.

Mr. Hrawi, a Syrian-backed Maronite Catholic, signed reforms in September 1990 in which the Syrians do not have to leave Beirut until after the capital votes.

The election is to be conducted on three separate days to give the Lebanese army time to shift its troops to provide security.

Between Syrian and Israeli spheres of influence, is to vote Sept. 6.

So far no one is running in the Christian enclave, hot Beirut candidates have until Aug. 15 to file.

Elsewhere in Lebanon, every day brings a new batch of contenders — lawyers, doctors, businessmen, economists and engineers. Few of them belong to the old families of old faiths who traditionally controlled Lebanese politics.

In parliamentary elections, which were held every four years before things fell apart, parties hardly existed except as names of convenience for the powerful clans. The patriarchs, or warlords, of those clans built power blocs before and after the elections.

This biggest change this time is among the Shiites, who have long been at the bottom of the social, political and economic ladder despite their ever-increasing numbers.

This time, the Shiites have their own first-generation warlords and pro-Iranian Islamic fundamentalist seeking to break the hold of a few old-time wealthy Shiite landowners who used to cut deals with the Sunnis and the Maronite Catholics.

On Wednesday, the Iranian Hizbollah, the militant umbrella group for factions believed to have held most Western hostages in Lebanon, said it will field eight candidates but declined to release their names for security reasons.

The new candidates are going at the campaign with gusto, spending thousands of dollars to win over voters.

Each candidate has to pay 10 million Lebanese pounds (\$5,000) to the government where he formally submits his candidacy. Campaign expenses include not only posters and banners that have been plastered on almost every wall, lamp post and tree trunk but

personal largesse, such as the scholarships offered to Mrs. Hussein's five children.

There is plenty of talk that some contestants are offering to pay up to \$1,000 per vote. But no one is willing to discuss this publicly.

"I will only vote to the one who pays me, even if he gives me only \$50," said Saad Siman, a Shiite academic instructor from the Bekaa. "This is the only chance to get anything out of them."

Mohammad Rifai, a Sunni merchant running in Beirut, gave out food parcels at the campaign rally he held in an amusement park. People grabbed the parcels and ran, leaving him alone on the podium and talking to the wind.

Another candidate, Mohammad Rahhal, owns a chain of furniture stores in Beirut. He is offering a 30 per cent discount to customers who pledge to vote for him.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

JORDAN TELEVISION	
Tel: 77111-19	
PROGRAMME TWO	
18:30	Santa Vision
18:30	Mars of Sophie
19:30	News in French
19:30	Le Cirque
19:30	News in Hebrew
20:30	News in Arabic
20:30	Acropolis Now
21:30	Mr. Bean
22:30	News in English
Oscar Film: "The Scarlet Pimpernel"	
PRAYER TIMES	
04:27	Fajr
05:52	(Sunrise) Dhuhr
12:41	Dhuhr
16:21	'Asr
19:30	Maghrib
20:55	Isha
CHURCHES	
St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swedeh, Tel. 632785.	
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590.	
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440.	
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757	
Terzian Church Tel. 623366	
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541.	
Anglican Church Tel. 630851, Tel. 625453.	
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331.	
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 773261.	
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751.	
Assiout International Church Tel. 683236.	
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 611295.	
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Tel. 623624, 649032.	
Church of the Nazareth Tel. 675691.	
Church of the Redeemer — Tel. 638526.	
WEATHER	
A rise in temperatures will take place and winds will be northwesterly moderate. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.	
Min/Max temp.	
Amman	21 / 34
Aqaba	26 / 41
Deirata	17 / 38

Jordan Valley	25 / 40
Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 32, Aqaba 40. Humidity readings: Amman 35 per cent, Aqaba 18 per cent.	
USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS	
NIGHT DUTY	
AMMAN:	
Dr. Mohammad Al Nahawi	690925
Dr. Fakhri Bilal	623778
Dr. Walid Al Masi	675485
Dr. Nidal Al Dabeh	676265
Fedows pharmacy	773336
Al Azma pharmacy	670553
Natros pharmacy	623672
Al Salam pharmacy	636730
Yacoub pharmacy	649495
Shamsi pharmacy	637660
JERUSALEM:	
Dr. Ali Al Omari	(—)
Al Shauq pharmacy	(75825)

ZARQA:	(—)
Dr. Hasham Al Sababati	(—)
Khalil pharmacy	985417
EMERGENCIES	
Food Control Centre	637111
Civil Defence Department	661111
Civil Defence Unit	630341
Civil Defence Emergency	199
Rescue Police	192, 621111, 637777
Fire Brigade	891228
Blood Bank	775121
Highway Police	84442
Traffic Police	896390
Public Security Department	638221
Central Amman Telephone	608800
Price Complaints	661176
Water and Sewerage Complaints	877467
Amman Municipality Complaints	787111
Telephone Information (directory assistance)	121
Overseas Calls	0210238
Central Amman Telephones Repairs	622390



GRADUATION: His Majesty King Hussein Sunday addresses a gathering at the Royal War Academy on the occasion of the

graduation of a new batch of students. (right) The King presents a certificate to one of the graduates (Petra photos)

Jordan, Tunisia agree on exchanges in books, culture

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan and Tunisia on Monday ended talks promoting bilateral cooperation with an agreement to fulfill cultural exchange programmes.

The talks, conducted through teams led by the Ministers of Culture, Mahmoud Samra and Munji Bu Senineh, covered topics ranging from culture to tourism to arts, radio and television programmes. Articles 16, 20 and 28 of a bilateral agreement which lapsed until the end of 1992 were amended under the new deal, said a statement at the end of the meetings.

The two sides agreed on visits by delegations of experts in theatre, book exhibitions and cultural activities, the statement noted.

It said that the Jordanian Ministry of Culture will present Tunisia with a large collection of musical recordings and other items of Jordanian Bedouin culture. The ministry will also send a gift of traditional Jordanian musical instruments to the Tunisian Music Museum.

The two sides agreed to twin the Tunisian Carthage Cultural Festival with the annual Jerash

Festival. The Tunisians will provide artistic expertise, the statement added.

The two sides will also exchange books and other publications with National libraries and official visits. Tunisia agreed to help Jordan set up a national library and pledged to offer any other help to promote bilateral cooperation in child education in particular.

The agreement summed up two days of talks between Jordanian and Tunisian officials, including a briefing with His Majesty King Hussein and Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shakir.

The Tunisian minister Monday also paid a visit to the Jordan Radio and Television Corporation and met with its director general Radi Alkhas who briefed him on the corporation's role, activities and cultural programmes.

The minister discussed with Mr. Alkhas areas where Tunisia and Jordan can launch cooperation in culture-related matters. Present at the meeting were local officials and the Tunisian ambassador to Jordan.

Lower House resumes debate on public sector debt, judicial unit to punish and prevent violations proposed

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Lower House of Parliament Monday resumed discussion of the special financial committee's report of the audit bureau which started last Wednesday.

This was the third session the report came under scrutiny after the Audit Bureau detailed that government departments owe the Finance Ministry JD 531 million, in addition to the JD 117 million owed by the Telecommunications Corporation (TCC) and Royal Jordanian, the national air carrier.

Seven deputies took part in the debate Monday, compared to 14 who spoke in earlier sessions.

Addressing the session, Deputy Issa Reimouni voiced his support for the committee's report recommending the creation of a judicial unit to punish violators. He proposed that the law be

strict. Disregard to the bureau's demands can only reflect carelessness, and had there been a law regulating relations between the bureau and the other departments everyone would have respected it, said Mr. Reimouni.

Deputy Yousef Khasawneh demanded that the government establish a new basis for the selection of Prime Ministers and cabinet members who, he said, should be well qualified. The government must re-examine the whole public administration system, he said.

He added that Ministry of Education systems and curricula for schools should be revised to bring on a more educated generation respecting national interests.

Mr. Khasawneh said that good education and breeding can help create a generation of honest men

and women loyal to Jordan. He said that information services should be better cared to create stronger minds, suggesting youths should not be allowed to watch robbery scenes on television.

Deputy Issa Midanat speaking on his behalf and others said that the situation is not yet hopeless and things can be addressed despite the imbalance reported.

"But first we should find the real causes of the problem before we try to deal with the situation and find solutions to the problem," said Mr. Midanat. He warned that should matters be left unattended, the House would continue to hear bureau's reports without any improvement to the situation.

The next session to debate the bureau's report will be held Sunday.

Turkey to supply endangered deer

AMMAN (J.T.) — Turkish authorities have agreed to supply Jordan with Roe deer to be added to those already at their natural habitat of Zubiya wildlife reserve near Ajloun.

The announcement was made by Maher Abu Jaafar, the director of the Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature (RSCN), upon his return from Ankara where he held talks with Turkish officials about the deal and about cooperation in creating wildlife reserves.

Following the week-long visit, director of the forests department in Ankara announced Turkey's agreement to supply Jordan with a second batch of Roe deer, which were once extinct in the Kingdom for more than 100 years, said Mr. Abu Jaafar.

Turkey had supplied Jordan with a number of these animals in 1989 and they are well cared for at the Zubiya Reserve, according to Mr. Abu Jaafar.

He said he held talks with officials at the Ministry of Forests in Turkey on ways to promote Jordanian-Turkish cooperation in preserving wildlife and maintaining national parks. He also discussed the control of hunting in Jordan and Turkey.

During the visit, Mr. Abu Jaafar acquainted himself with modern technology in caring for the Roe deer and other animals at the wildlife reserves around Turkey. Mr. Abu Jaafar said that Roe deer is an endangered species with only some 200 animals surviving worldwide.

The RSCN was trying to increase the number of deer and has set up facilities for the deer and their keepers in the Zubiya Reserve near Ajloun, he added.

RSCN is intent on reintroducing endangered and locally extinct species to their natural habitats, runs five other wildlife reserves. They are Shomari, Azraq, Mujib, Dana and Rum.

Tunisian envoy visits gallery

AMMAN (Petra) — Tunisian Culture Minister Al Munji Bu Senineh visited Monday the National Gallery for Fine Arts and toured its various sections. Mr. Bu Senineh was briefed by director of the gallery Subeil Bisharat on the duties and goals of the gallery which was established in 1980. The Tunisian minister was accompanied on the visit by Jordanian ambassador to Tunis Haidar Mahmoud, director of Al Fanoun establishment in Tunisia Ali Al Lawati and several other officials.

Queen praises Algerian gold medal winner, victory for Arab women

AMMAN (J.T.) — Her Majesty Queen Noor Al Hussein sent a telegram Monday congratulating Algerian runner Boui Al Maraga for breaking the tape in the women's 1,500m marathon at the Olympics.

The following is the text: Your great victory in Barcelona, winning the gold medal at the 1,500m marathon is a special victory for every Arab woman. Your perseverance and relentless efforts have honored your country Algeria and the Arab nation. Your triumph over time and distance represent the Arab woman's response to challenge;

your victory providing new proofs and clear evidence to her abilities and nurturing hope for further progress in all fields.

I would like to congratulate you from the bottom of my heart and seize the opportunity to extend the congratulations of Jordanian women and convey our best wishes of progress, prosperity and peace to our Algerian sisters.

In a flamboyant farewell, Barcelona bade farewell Sunday to the Olympics, the highest in history. More than 10,000 athletes battled for gold, silver and bronze medals over 16 days.



Her Majesty Queen Noor Monday presents a certificate to a graduate from the Gordoba Intermediate Community College in Zarqa (Petra photo)

Queen graduates Gordoba College students

ZARQA (J.T.) — Her Majesty Queen Noor, responding to a letter signed by 420 students from the Gordoba Intermediate Community College in Zarqa governorate to patronize their graduation ceremony, distributed certificates Monday to the college's 10th batch of graduates.

She presented five members of the local community with the college's honorary shields for their constructive contribution to the advancement of the college since its inception.

The ceremony was attended by the governor of Zarqa, parliament representatives of Zarqa governorate, members of the college's executive board and board of trustees, staff members and families of the graduates.

The college is a private institution for girls that was established in 1981. It offers a two-year diploma in 13 different subjects in the arts and sciences and is attended by students from Jordan and neighbouring Arab countries.

First International Jordan soccer championship

AMMAN (Petra) — The Iraqi national team will arrive in Amman Tuesday to participate in the first Jordan soccer championship to be held in Amman and Irbid as of Aug. 16. A total of 10 national Arab and foreign teams are expected to take part in the championship.

Preparations for population conference begin

AMMAN (Petra) — A two-day meeting for the preparatory committee of the Arab Population Conference, to be held next April in Amman, opened Monday. The meeting, which is hosted by the Economic and Social Commission of Western Asia (ESCSA), will discuss population issues such as growth, policies and programmes. The meeting will also discuss environment and population, distribution of population, immigration, family planning and women in development.

Exports rise in '92 — industrial products big hit in E. Europe

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan's exports rose significantly this year compared with last year which came in the wake of the Gulf crisis and economic changes in the Middle East, according to Jordan Trade Association (JTA) President Samir Darwazah.

Statistics indicate that minerals like phosphate and potash registered high record sales and were exported to markets worldwide more than in 1991, said Mr. Darwazah in a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

He said JTA played a prominent role in tackling export issues, applying scientific techniques to delve into new markets with national industrial products.

Indeed, the products are competitive, rivaling those of other countries, particularly in Eastern Europe, Mr. Darwazah said.

Following the Gulf crisis, Jordanian exports were confronted overcoming the problem of finding new markets after being dependent on markets in neighbouring Arab states, he said.

Mr. Darwazah said that many

traditional markets for Jordanian goods were closed in the wake of the Gulf war, causing the national industry to retreat until new markets were found.

JTA, he said, is trying hard to find new markets and diversify the national products reaching them. Success has been made towards meeting this goal in Eastern Europe and South East Asian markets.

JTA conducts studies on new Arab and foreign markets before advising to exporters on how to approach them, he said.

JTA has now worked out a plan aimed at familiarising foreign markets with Jordanian products and has organised a number of exhibits and trade fairs in Indonesia, Moscow, Libya and Sudan to promote the sale of Jordanian products. The move has helped stimulate Jordan's exports to these countries.

JTA has now started dispatching trade delegations to a number of countries. Last year, one team visited Austria when it concluded trade deals with a number of Austrian and Eastern European

companies.

JTA has also sent invitations to the private and public sectors in Europe, America, Britain, Cyprus and Austria to launch joint ventures in Jordan. Some of these institutions have expressed interest and contacts are continuing, said Mr. Darwazah.

Furthermore, JTA has opened offices in a number of capitals, including in Moscow and Khartoum in order to orientate the public on Jordanian products.

Mr. Darwazah's statement echoed views given last month by Safwan Bataineh, economic advisor to the prime minister. He said that Jordan's economy, affected by the Gulf war, has emerged from a recession and is set for greater growth this year than forecast earlier.

Dr. Bataineh said the gross domestic product, last year reversed previous declines to show a one per cent real growth. The GDP is expected to increase substantially in 1992, more than the three per cent forecast by the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

U.N. turns down Iraqi request to fly elderly, sick and children abroad

AMMAN (J.T.) — The U.N. Sanctions Committee has turned down an Iraqi Airways request to operate flights between Baghdad and Amman to transport Iraqi elderly, sick and employees, according to national airline board chairman Noureddin Safi Hammadi.

He said that the committee also refused Iraqi Airways to sell or lease aircraft, idle at Amman and Tunis airports.

In a statement to the Jordan Times, Mr. Hammadi said he was seeking to appear before the committee members to discuss the illegal and inhuman impact of such refusals and the continuation of sanctions imposed on the Iraqi Airways and civilian flights.

U.N. Security Council resolutions 661 and 670, issued following Iraq's occupation of Kuwait, do not provide for an air embargo on civilian flights. This embargo has caused great material and moral

damage to many people in Iraq and abroad, he said.

According to Mr. Hammadi, Iraqi Airways has sustained \$100 million in losses, in addition to 1.5 million Iraqi dinars paid to airline officials in wage, Mr. Hammadi added.

Iran still has 22 Iraqi Airways planes, Tunis has four Boeing 747 and 727 planes and Amman has two aircraft.

Iraqi Airways had earlier submitted a request to the U.N. Sanctions Committee to retrieve these planes for domestic flights between Baghdad and Basra, but the request was denied, according to Mr. Hammadi. He added that the committee has also refused to allow Iraqi Airways to transport meat from Sudan to Amman, where it will reach Baghdad by land.

Furthermore, the U.N. committee has rejected an Iraqi Airways request to transport chil-



Noureddin Safi Hammadi

dren and the sick to Europe for medical treatment. Mr. Hammadi described the committee's attitude as arbitrary and influenced by pressure from the United States and Britain.

Madaba — not just a mosaic town

By Lancy Salisbury
Special to the Jordan Times

MADABA — Madaba, for long a check-list tourist stop, may soon become a major attraction with the completion of a million dollar archaeological park that will not only have a school for renovating mosaics but museums, bed and breakfasts and centres for scholars.

"About half of Jordan's tourists go to Madaba and spend only 30 minutes. But in years to come Madaba will be very important for Jordan," said Tourism Department Director Nassir Atalla.

By the end of this year, tourists can gaze at mosaic panels in a modern Byzantine style museum that finally groups the town's famous tiled carpets scattered across Jordan in museums or under layers of protective dirt.

Next door, visitors will stroll down a late Roman road, still being uncovered, and walk past strata of the middle Bronze to Iron Age and mosaic floors from the Byzantine to Umayyad era.

Around town, cafes and restaurants will serve hummus and snacks. Local weavers and craftsmen will sell carpets and trinkets.

"Madaba is not just mosaics," American archaeologist Cherie Lenz said, brushing away dirt from the road in better condition than some modern ones today.

The challenge is "to reflect the Iron Age, the Middle Age, above Roman ruins. How do I explain this history to tourists and represent Madaba as the microcosm of Jordan's history," she said.

To attract tourists, the government, private sector and scholars are preserving this city intermittently inhabited for nearly 3,500 years but overshadowed for the past two decades by Jordan's major tourist attractions, Aqaba and Petra. Unlike other projects in Jordan, Madaba's ruins are not being excavated in isolation and for the first time a large-scale archaeological project is being fully conceptualised.

"This is the last chance that

Madaba can be turned into a historic town before being lost forever. We are trying to strike a balance between modern development and ancient remains," said a project architect, Ammar Khammash.

Call it urban archaeology. Fifty metres of the 1,500 year old road runs past office blocks with sun-tinted windows and under shops selling toys.

Down the street from butchers hanging sheep and cobblers stitching shoes, archaeologists excavate turn-of-the-century homes and other ruins beneath the town.

"Madaba is like a textile. We are trying to weave the old with the new to show the complexity," Mr. Khammash said.

According to workers, Madaba residents were at first wary of the work but soon became interested when they understood the history being unearthed and the business between tourism will bring.

According to Mr. Khammash, the work is also labour intensive, employing at least 85 workers. Sixty to 80 per cent of the cost is labour, compared to the usual 20 per cent for most projects.

The mosaic school, museum and Church of the Apostles, which will have a 16 metre arch, the biggest in Jordan, alone employs about 70 workers.

Funded by Italian, American and Canadian aid, the school will train 20-25 students

a year to restore and maintain the 5th to 7th century mosaics. Students will also learn how to make mosaics for the tourist trade as part of the revival of locally-made handicrafts.

The first of its kind in the Middle East, the school, to open by December, will also enroll Syrians, Egyptians and other regional othaloalities, Mr. Atalla said.

But whether tourists cantered to Madaba and ended to browse in its souqs remains to be seen.

As Mr. Atalla said, Madaba is "a hard sell. We need to educate tour operators about Madaba's history." With the loss of Jerusalem and other holy sites, "we have to work to sell Jordan."

Madaba has biblical tales to tell as an area conquered by Israelites, Moabites, Persians and Crusaders, to name a few. Its wheat fields and mountains have been trodden by Moses, David and monks. The town has 14 churches. One of the richest collection of mosaics in the world, the most famous mosaic Map of Palestine.

But the problem is market-

ing. On one recent trip to Madaba, a bus load of tourists peered at the mosaic Map of Palestine and shuffled through a pile of postcards at the Greek Orthodox Church. Twenty minutes later, they were back on the bus for Amman, headed for lunch.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

Exhibitions

- ★ Exhibition entitled "Exploring Science" at the British Council.
- ★ Exhibition of small paintings by Mohammad Samara at Baladna Art Gallery.
- ★ Photography exhibition by Shihab Al Mufti at the Phoenix Art and Culture Gallery.
- ★ Exhibition of photos of the Hashemite family since the start of the Great Arab Revolt and the establishment of the Trans-Jordan Emirate as well as photos depicting the development of the Jordanian Armed Forces at Muta University.
- ★ Exhibition of children's books, stationery and handicrafts at the Greek Catholic Church in northern Marka.

Film

- ★ French film entitled "After the War" at the Scientific and Cultural Centre of Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation — 6:30 p.m.

Correction

Due to an editing error, a headline on page 3 yesterday should have read "King receives Tunisian envoy," not "Turkish envoy, sorry for an inconvenience."

Jordan Times

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Symbol of Jordan: 40 years on throne

WHEN KING Hussein took power 40 years ago today he had not yet reached 18 years of age and Jordan was only six. Both King and country have come a long way since then. Born the son and grandson of kings, King Hussein inherited the burden of the 1917 Great Arab Revolt and its vision of a free and united Arab Nation. Since his accession in 1952, the King had set his vision on creating a modern and model Arab state. This he did, although he had to deal with more powerful and richer Arab countries where, in many cases, leaders changed every season. He had to deal with so-called revolutionaries, generals and demagogues. His pragmatic and ethical policies and practices have often been questioned, doubted and attacked. Yet he persisted in doing what he believed was right and honourable undeterred by his antagonists and detractors. The King's style of leadership has been unique. Despite many attempted coups and assassination bids, the King has always kept a cool head, free of vengeance towards those who threatened his life and those of his family members. When the wave of radicalism and communism that everyone admits now has devastated Arab economies and development was the fashion in the Arab World, the King distanced Jordan from the trend making it possible for the country to escape the humiliating consequences of centrally-planned and executed economic policies. And when pressure was mounting both from within and from without for Jordan to align itself, especially with the communist bloc, the King, although keen on maintaining good relations with all nations, also resisted. Only now do leftists recognise the wisdom of the King's policies and his ability to sail the ship of Jordan on the Middle East's ocean of violence. Other political forces on the right and the centre realise this fact today.

In inter-Arab and regional politics His Majesty has become a recognised expert on reconciliation and moderation. He spared no effort at playing the role of the mediator and the peace advocate whenever there was a need. He knows and makes it clear that without peace in the region there will be little chance for the progress and welfare for all the peoples of the region. He misses no chance, however, to remind his fellow Arab heads of state that Arab rights and Arab people's aspirations could not be achieved unless and until the Arabs put aside their quarrels and close their ranks.

On the domestic front the King has changed Jordan from a nomadic and rural country into a modern state with functioning institutions. And it is in his quest to consolidate and institutionalise political life in this country that the King continues to nurture and tend to our budding democracy which he ushered in back in 1959.

Jordanians from walks of life and of all political leanings acknowledge and appreciate the King's role and admire his vision, his perseverance and his desire to contribute not only to the well-being of Jordan and Jordanians but also to that of the Arab people at large. As he said yesterday and as past experience has shown, Jordan and its leadership might be misunderstood and misjudged today, but tomorrow the banners of Jordan's credibility and national honesty will fly high as they always did.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

AL RA'I Arabic daily Monday described as hypocritical and false Washington's claim that it is concerned about the Muslims of Bosnia-Herzegovina because the United States, it said, is continuing atrocities against Muslim people in other parts of the world. Indeed, it was the United States which had led an international conspiracy that resulted in the disintegration of Yugoslavia and is now watching the war-torn country's citizens being massacred, said the daily. The paper said that Jordanians sympathise with the people of this war-torn country and the Muslims of Bosnia because they do not differentiate between white and black or between Christians and Muslims in their sympathy with an oppressed people on earth. The people of Bosnia, along with those of Palestine, Lebanon and Iraq, are all victims of aggression and therefore they all deserve sympathy from all nations, added the paper. But it said that the Americans are selective in their show of sympathy and they are copied in this practice by the Gulf countries as this is manifested in their media. The Americans and their allies have no sympathy at all towards the Muslims of Somalia and Djibouti or those of Palestine and Sudan in addition to the Muslims of Iraq, and this shows clearly the false feelings the Americans are showing or claiming to have towards the Muslims of Bosnia-Herzegovina, the paper continued. One can therefore conclude that the Americans and their allies are not showing sympathy towards the people of Bosnia based on religion, and it is clear also that only those Muslims who succumb to Washington's domination can deserve American support, the paper said. The United States, the paper concluded, is embarking on a false attempt to show sympathy with the Muslims, but in reality it harbours hatred and malice towards the Arabs and Muslims and its practices clearly manifest its total disregard to any values, morals or religions.

A COLUMNIST in Al Ra'i Arabic daily tackled the traffic congestion in downtown Amman, noting that there is a big urgency for something to be done to deal with the situation. Nazih said that the Engineering Department at Amman Municipality has not yet succeeded in finding a way to organise traffic in the capital in general and the central parts of the city in particular despite its past efforts. The result is a very congested city, making it impossible for motorists or pedestrians to feel comfortable. All the past attempts to ease the congestion seem to have been futile and everytime they try a new plan they fail to achieve the desired results, said the writer. The municipality is facing a real problem and that is that it can by no means enlarge the streets of the city due to many reasons, the writer said. He added that traffic congestion does not appear in the city only during rush hours but throughout the day. He urged the municipality to come up with the necessary funds needed to pay the owners of buildings downtown to remove them to allow for streets to be enlarged and consequently end the congestions.

I'D LIKE TO HELP YOU KIDS, BUT
I GOT ORDERS TO SAVE THE
EMIR OF KUWAIT...

...YOU KNOW, THE
TRULY NEEDY...



U.N. Security Council damned if it condones force, damned if it doesn't

By Peter James Spielmann
The Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS — The Security Council faces a quandary. Should U.N. peacekeepers in Bosnia remain neutral while the country dies around them or, in effect, back the Bosnian government by using force to deliver aid?

President Bush hopes to push a resolution through the Security Council this week authorising military force to ensure the delivery of humanitarian aid to the besieged people of Sarajevo. He and other world leaders oppose using troops to end the war.

Aid so far has been airlifted primarily to Muslim-dominated Sarajevo. If military force is used, the well armed Serbian militias surrounding the capital would regard and treat the U.N. peacekeepers as enemies if they don't already. The U.N. headquarters repeatedly has been shelled; at least six peacekeepers were wounded last week.

Mr. Bush's proposal raises tough questions:

— How much force is needed to guarantee aid deliveries?

Maj. Gen. Lewis MacKenzie of Canada, relieved last week after five months as head of the peacekeeping force in Bosnia, said the task would be "monumental," possibly bigger than the allied effort in the Gulf war. Gen. MacKenzie noted that just to guarantee safe passage for a relief convoy, peacekeepers would have to clear a land corridor 40 kms wide along the entire route to keep artillery out of range.

A limited strike against Serb positions would expose U.N. forces to attack, Gen. MacKenzie said, while more extensive involvement would require an international force of up to 800,000 "as a starting point." At its height, the Gulf war coalition numbered 700,000, including 540,000 U.S. troops.

More than 1,000 U.N. peacekeepers are in Sarajevo, part of a force of up to 10,000 authorised to keep the peace in Croatia.

"I think we should attempt to

deliver humanitarian supplies and do our utmost to put an end to atrocities, but I don't think we can impose a military solution in Bosnia," former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger said Sunday.

Can the United Nations handle such a complex military campaign?

The problem in Bosnia is comparable to the United Nations' debacle in the Congo from 1960-64, where 20,000 peacekeepers found themselves embroiled in civil war, rebellion and changes of government.

Although the Congo operation resulted in a unified, governable Zaire, diplomats and U.N. officials agreed that the world body should never plunge into such a quagmire again.

France and Britain advocate a cautious buildup in Bosnia to fortify U.N. peacekeeping.

But that could be risky. U.N. successes in past peacekeeping have been modest, involving a few thousand troops at most and only attempted after all sides had agreed to a ceasefire.

In Bosnia, ceasefires are broken as routinely as they are signed.

Also, the United Nations has never been given the financial or military power or the authority to forcibly keep the peace. The two biggest U.N. successes of this type were the Korean and Gulf wars — both fought by U.S.-led coalitions with the United Nations blessing.

Would the use of force endanger the peacekeepers?

Secretary General Bontros Ghali and his advisors, including Gen. MacKenzie, believe the Serbs would view a resolution authorising the use of force as a declaration of war, and thus consider U.N. peacekeepers the enemy.

The United Nations has already imposed an economic embargo on the new Serb-dominated Yugoslavia to stop its interference in the war in Bosnia.

If the Security Council approves the use of force, Dr. Boutros Ghali will probably seek to withdraw his peacekeepers

from Bosnia and let an independent military coalition formed by member nations protect aid shipments.

— Who would do the fighting?

Mr. Bush doesn't want it to be American men and women, especially not in an election year. "I do not want to see the United States bogged down in any way in some guerrilla warfare," he said last week.

There is broad agreement that Europe should take the lead in solving a European problem. NATO has begun drafting contingency plans to use European troops and air forces, but there are still difficulties.

Prime Minister John Major of Britain has spoken against sending British troops despite calls for an anti-Serb assault from his predecessor, Margaret Thatcher.

Germany's constitution prohibits it from deploying troops outside the NATO region and Bosnia would not accept Italian troops because they occupied part of the territory in World War II.

Russia and other former Soviet republics are also reluctant to fight fellow Slavs in a former socialist state.

— What if U.N. efforts fail?

The current peacekeeping force in Bosnia opened up the airport but Bosnians are increasingly critical of it for remaining scrupulously neutral while Serb forces overrun the country and force out Muslims and Croats in an "ethnic cleansing" campaign.

They think U.N. neutrality aids the Serbs, and the longer the peacekeepers continue in their present role, the angrier the Bosnians become.

If the United Nations fails to act decisively against Serbian aggression, its major powers will leave themselves open to charges they are willing to ignore human rights abuses and injustice in smaller, weaker nations.

"You have to have oil or an atomic bomb to be either protected or coerced," Bosnia's foreign minister, Haris Silajdzic, said in disgust on Sunday.

Stop the excuses: Serbia should get an ultimatum

By Margaret Thatcher

LONDON — Terrible events are happening in Bosnia, worse ones are threatened. Sarajevo is under constant bombardment. Gorazde is besieged and likely to fall. If it does, a large massacre is feared and thousands of Serbian troops will be free to move on Sarajevo, itself swollen with refugees from other areas.

The victims and losers in this conflict suffer more than the usual penalties of defeat. Some are herded into concentration camps where, even if the worst reports of atrocities are untrue, they nonetheless suffer appalling privation and can be shot for insignificant offenses. Others are driven from their homes and obliged to give up their property. Children and passers-by are shot at and killed.

This is the Serbian "ethnic cleansing" policy — a term for the expulsion of the non-Serb population that combines the barbarities of Hitler's and Stalin's policies towards other nations.

Everyone witnessing or hearing of these tragic events desperately wants them to stop. But this feeling is exploited by Serbia and its sympathisers to press for a United Nations-sponsored ceasefire. Reasonable as this sounds, it is an attempt to "freeze" the present situation in which the Serbs hold about two-thirds of Bosnia's territory, whereas they make up only 31 per cent of the total population as against 43 per cent for the Muslims and 17 per cent for the Croats.

Such an outcome would consolidate and ratify aggression. It was Serbia that planned and carried out aggression against Bosnia in April. The government of Alija Izetbegovic in Sarajevo is the legal and internationally recognised government of the Bosnian republic.

The pretense that Serbia has nothing to do with what goes on in Bosnia is just that — a pretense. From the start there has been close coordination between forces in Bosnia and the Serbian high command in Belgrade, which is providing financial and military means for the war — including the all-important gasoline for the Serbian forces.

It is argued by some that nothing can be done by the West unless we are prepared to risk permanent involvement in the Vietnam- or Lebanon-style conflict and potentially high Western casualties. That is partly alarmism, partly an excuse for inertia.

There is a vast difference between a full-scale land invasion like Desert Storm, and a range of military interventions — from lifting the arms embargo on Bosnia, through supplying arms to Bosnian forces, to direct strikes on military targets and communications.

Even if the West passes by on the other side, we cannot expect that others will do the same. There is increasing alarm in Turkey and the Muslim World. More massacres of Muslims in Bosnia, terrible in themselves, would also bring the risk that the conflict might spread.

Serbia has no powerful outside backers, such as the Soviet Union in the past. It has up to now been encouraged by Western inaction not least by explicit statements that force would not be used. A

clear threat of military action would force Serbia into contemplating an end to its aggression. Serbia should be given an ultimatum to comply with certain Western demands:

— Cessation of Serbia's economic support for the war in Bosnia, to be monitored by international observers placed on the Serb-Bosnian border.

— Recognition of Bosnia's independence and territorial integrity by Belgrade and renunciation of territorial claims against it.

— Guarantees of access from Serbia and Bosnia for humanitarian teams.

— Agreement to the demilitarisation of Bosnia within a broader demilitarisation agreement for the whole region.

— Promise of cooperation with the return of refugees to Bosnia.

If those demands (which should be accompanied by a deadline) are not met, military retaliation should follow, including aerial bombardment of bridges on the Drina linking Bosnia with Serbia, of military convoys, of gun positions around Sarajevo and Gorazde, and of military stores and other installations useful in the war. It should also be made clear that while this is not a war against the Serbian people, even installations on the Serbian side of the border may be attacked if they play an important role in the war.

American leadership in this endeavor is indispensable, as the European Community's parleys has shown. But America cannot be expected to act alone. NATO, which is the most practical instrument to hand, must deal with the crisis. It is not "out of area."

The West's ultimate aim should be the restoration of the Bosnian state, backed by international guarantees within a regional pact, perhaps under the supervision by the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, and guaranteeing the rights of the three main groups in Bosnia (but not allowing for its partition into three cantons).

Such a solution would prevent the irreconcilable wars that the partition of the country between Serbia and Croatia would inevitably provoke. Also, keeping the Muslims in a united Bosnia would discourage their radicalisation, which would be inevitable if the Muslims were to be dispersed under alien rule. A desperate Muslim diaspora — not unlike the Palestinian one — could then turn to terrorism. Europe would have created an Islamic time bomb.

Serbia will not listen until forced to listen. Only the prospect of resistance and defeat will lead to the rise of a more democratic and peaceful leadership. Waiting until the conflict burns itself out will be not only dishonourable but also very costly: refugees, terrorism, Balkan wars drawing in other countries and worse.

Hesitation has already proved costly. The matter is urgent. There are perhaps a few weeks left for a serious initiative before it is too late and a Serb victory is accomplished, with terrible long-term consequences — The New York Times.

ADC condemns CBS 'bias'

As a result of what it called biased comments made by CBS News anchor Dan Rather, CBS Middle East consultant, Fouad Ajami and former Secretary of State and CBS board member Henry Kissinger, at a panel discussion, the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC) issued a press release condemning the "prejudiced statements" favouring one side in a highly controversial issue that is frequently reported on in the press. Following is the text of the ADC press release:



Albert Mokhiber

A June 3 benefit, which solicited funds for the absorption of Jewish immigrants into Jerusalem, featured a panel discussion with CBS anchor Dan Rather, CBS Middle East consultant Fouad Ajami, and former Secretary of State and CBS board member Henry Kissinger.

Henry Kissinger, CBS board member, stated that "you can't really believe anything an Arab says." During the panel discussion led by Mr. Rather, neither Mr. Rather nor anyone else on the programme objected to the

ceremony of eating with a bedouin. Mr. Ajami repeatedly insisted that Arabs were not capable of practicing democracy. "I've never really wanted elections" in any Arab or Muslim country," he declared.

Dan Rather, CBS anchor, opened the event by saying that "many of us celebrate 25 years after the city (Jerusalem) was united under Israeli rule." The CBS anchor warned that Israeli control of Jerusalem was at risk from an Arab "population explosion."

The American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee's (ADC) President Albert Mokhiber stated: "ADC finds that the remarks of Kissinger, Ajami and Rather are repugnant forms of anti-Arab racism which should not be condoned, especially by persons with such high visibility and in positions of prominence with CBS. Certainly if the word 'Arab' or 'bedouin' were replaced with 'Jew,' 'Black' or 'Hispanic,' such statements would have been condemned, and rightfully so."

A press release issued yesterday by Fairness and Accuracy In

Reporting (FAIR) exposed the disparaging anti-Arab opinions made by top CBS personnel at this Jerusalem Foundation benefit. Their attendance raises questions about the impartiality and balance of that network in news coverage of Israel and the Arab World.

Mr. Mokhiber said: "We have sent a letter to CBS demanding a public apology from each of these individuals and an investigation as to whether their respective positions should be terminated. We urge CBS to publicly clarify its understanding of the status of East Jerusalem, which is an occupied territory under international law, as affirmed by U.N. resolutions and U.S. policy for the last 40 years. Kissinger, Ajami, and Rather's celebration of 25 years of the 'unification' of Jerusalem amounts to commending the illegal Israeli occupation, legitimises the annexation of East Jerusalem, and compromises CBS's standing as a reliable news organisation."

ADC is also requesting that CBS expand its pool of Middle East consultants in order to counter their well-documented reporting bias towards Israel.

قزاع النجول

King urges Arab World order

(Continued from page 1)

mounting popular support for Baghdad, painted the Kingdom as pro-Iraq.

"The people (of the Gulf) came out in war and were met with the greedy West, which conspired to usurp their land and replaced their independence with colonialism and their unity with disarray," King Hussein said.

In the 15-minute speech, King Hussein implied that "external forces were pressuring Jordan, despite Jordan's enthusiastic response to the U.S.-brokered Middle East peace talks."

"We found ourselves besieged by bad intentions and external pressures," King Hussein said. "But I declare to all the people that Jordan would remain the staunch defender of the (Arab) Nation's interests."

He said that Jordanians realise that their steadfastness with Iraq is countered with "more blockade as if they (the West) want our children to die like those in Iraq and Somalia."

"The Arab Order," the King said, "has not collapsed only one year ago but rather it has broken down the first time when the Great Arab Revolt was aborted and when Faisal Ben Al Hussein and Yusef Al Azma were continuously confronting the foreign invasion with their companions."

"The Arab Order collapsed

when a few of the Arabs were left to fight alone at the walls of Jerusalem and when the Arab Nation witnessed several coups and changes which they thought they would be effective and drastic only to turn out to be futile as you all know," he said.

"The Arab Order received a setback when the Arab League failed to live up to the aspirations of the Arab Nation towards unity and integration and when a few Arab countries thought they would gain from a breach in the weak Arab system and when they refused our bid to heal the rifts in the Arab ranks," King Hussein said.

"The Arabs are now facing two choices: To opt for a new strong Arab Order based on right, justice, democracy, tolerance and freedom and capable of protecting Arab land and resources and dreams of a regional entity dependent on others who are continually causing a breach in the Arab body, looting its resources and depriving it of its free will," he said.

"In our endeavour to uphold the first option," he added, "we have committed ourselves to international legitimacy in an expression of our deep desire to attain peace and justice that can save this region from continued bloody chaos and give the Palestinian people their historic rights in their lands."

New university to focus on Islam

(Continued from page 1)

those of the Great Arab Revolt. King Hussein said that the Arab army "has shouldered its great responsibility and has been true to the principles and values of the great leaders."

"The Jordanian armed forces have offered the required facilities in the form of a building to house the new university," the King noted.

Officials told the Jordan Times that the building is located in the Mafrq region where the new university is to be established with funds coming from Jordan and abroad.

Prince Hassan will chair a royal commission which would comprise notable Arab and Islamic scholars from Jordan and other Arab and Islamic countries and will play a significant role in directing its work, said one official.

The new university will offer

students from Jordan, Arab and Islamic countries a wide range of subjects to study the humanities and sciences, the official said.

The university, which will give priority and special attention to Islamic studies, will be unique in Jordan in the sense that it will be governed by a Royal Commission and a board of trustees, the official noted.

The Crown Prince will have a special role in the university's affairs, the official added.

The other government-controlled universities — the university of Jordan, Yarmouk University, Muta University and the Jordan University for Science and Technology — are governed by boards of trustees and Royal commissions from Jordan.

The new university will be totally independent from the Royal Academy for Islamic Civilisation Research (Al Al Bait Foundation) which started activities in 1981.

Bush, Rabin aim to boost ties

(Continued from page 1)

lens in his country "are in the domestic field."

Mr. Bush and Mr. Rabin appeared relaxed and friendly as they spoke on the driveway leading to Mr. Bush's vacation home. They were expected to play tennis later in the day, and Mr. Rabin was scheduled to leave on Tuesday.

The Israeli leader arrived by car from Pease Air Force Base in nearby Portsmouth, New Hampshire, after fog kept him from travelling to the presidential estate by helicopter.

An area-wide electric power outage created problems for their meeting, leading to speculation that the two leaders would have to meet by candlelight. But power was restored about an hour after Mr. Rabin's arrival.

A U.S. official said there were "no obvious obstacles" to an agreement under which the United States would provide loan guarantees worth up to \$10 billion to help Israel absorb 400,000 immigrants from the former Soviet Union and elsewhere.

Such guarantees would help Israel borrow the funds on favourable credit terms because the United States would ensure repayment in the event of a default.

A sign that agreement was near was the fact that the White House planned to brief politically influential American Jewish groups on results of the summit later this week.

Mr. Bush had spurned Mr. Shamir's plea for the guarantees because he would accede to a U.S. demand that Israel stop

settlers

(Continued from page 1)

built. These townships mushroomed into dozens of red-roofed settlements where about 115,000 Israelis now live in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The cabinet has responded more resolutely this time, mindful that Mr. Bush could withhold \$10 billion in guarantees needed by Israel unless settlement construction is curbed.

"The Israeli government will not accept the illegal actions of the settlers who acted yesterday in Hebron, and has instructed the Israeli army and police to maintain law and order in Hebron," the cabinet statement read.

Issued after the weekly four-hour session, the statement added that the settler "attempts to clash with the army and police forces are worthy of all condemnation."

Jordan marks anniversary

(Continued from page 1)

the issue of restoring Al Aqsa mosque and other holy shrines" under Israeli occupation, Sheikh Sayeh said. "This prompted all citizens, Christians and Muslims alike, to thank His Majesty."

Jum'a Hammud, a member of the Upper House of Parliament and a journalist and writer, recalled that the King had displayed intent care for the press and that he used to have periodic meetings with chief editors and journalists to advise them and direct them as far back as the 50s.

"The King used to contact writers directly to congratulate them for their writings," Sen. Hammud said. "Some people today do not know that Jordanian newspapers were always under Hashemite protection against the regime's dominance and closure orders when extraordinary laws prevailed in the country," he said.

Had it not been for this protection, he said, "I can testify that some of the newspapers being published today would have been forgotten long ago."

Deputy Abdul Majid Shreideh, head of the Constitution Bloc in the Lower House, paid tribute to the King for establishing constitutional democracy in Jordan. "The King laid the foundations for democracy in Jordan that would reflect the aspirations of the Jordanian people regardless of their political affiliations," he said.

Prominent businessman and honorary consul of the Netherlands Raouf Abdul Jabbar said the King's efforts had not only "offered Jordanians stability, security and progress" but also a "unique role for Jordan to play in the region."

"In the 40 years of the King's reign, we have enjoyed security and stability," Dr. Abdul Jabbar said. "We have had problems but nothing that we could not handle. We are grateful for the progress of the country as a result of the moderate leadership of the King and we hope God almighty would give many more years under his leadership."

Dr. Abdul Jabbar said Jordan "faced many challenges and still face many challenges. But the most important thing is the King's continued endeavours to enable Jordan to withstand these challenges in these difficult times."

Dr. Abdul Jabbar called for "national unity, respect for democracy and wise appropriation of national resources" as the main pillars of Jordan's approach to the future.

Several Western diplomats voiced their country's admiration for King Hussein not only as a seasoned head of state but also as a veteran statesman.

"We've always highly appreciated his ability to deal with problems and his relentless efforts to reach a political settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict," said a European diplomat who preferred anonymity.

"All European heads of state and government have always maintained excellent relations with Jordan and its leadership mainly because of the King and his policies as well as his person," the diplomat added.

"As a person, we have always found him very determined, very much anxious to accomplish what he believes is right for the country and his people, strong ideas and principles, willing to take risks if needed."

According to Dr. Nasser Tahboub, a political science professor, "if one considers what the King has done for Jordan and its people over the past 40 years, there is no doubt that he could be counted among the best heads of state in the world. He has guided Jordan through numerous challenges and grave crises and managed to bring out the country and its people unscathed."

"The King counts among the top statesmen of the world, something that has been testified to not by Jordanians or Arabs but by Western as well as Third World leaders," Dr. Tahboub said. "If one is to apply a scale of 0 to 10, then the King deserves the full 10 points."

A veteran analyst of the Jordanian scene described as "comfortable" the situation faced by Jordan and its people as they mark the King's accession anniversary.

On the regional front, said the analyst, who asked not to be named: "Indeed Jordan may be politically isolated, but so is every Arab country, regardless of the political agreements or apparently warm relations with other countries. Therefore, it is inevitable that the Arab countries have to come back to the mainstream Arab fold. It is only a matter of time."

The analyst was referring to the strain in inter-Arab relations caused by the Gulf crisis.

At the same time, the Kingdom enjoys excellent relations not only with European and Third World countries in general but also powers such as China, Japan

and India, the analyst noted. "Our relations with the U.S. have been on and off but things are looking up," he said.

On the internal front, the most important aspect of the situation in the Kingdom is the institutionalisation of dialogue and debate as a means to solve problems, he pointed out.

"Jordan has a large burden of accumulated problems and these problems do pose challenges, but the difference now is that there is a channel to discuss everything out in the open with a view to finding solutions. That is what counts now," he said.

"What happened in Parliament last week is the most outstanding example of the new channels of dialogue and problem resolutions," the analyst added referring to the Lower House debate and decision on an alleged corruption case involving former ministers.

"The concept of open dialogue and democratic decision is slowly sinking into the body politic of Jordan," he said. "People see every problem being dealt with in the open through the channels of democracy and the reaffirmation that no one above the law and everyone is accountable makes everyone comfortable."

The analyst particularly referred to criticism of the government in Audit Bureau reports and said the "most healthiest sign is that the government is taking it since it means accepting realities as they are and seeking solutions in a democratic framework."

Kabul

(Continued from page 1)

said he heard at least 600 rockets slam into the capital within an hour on Monday.

Factions are bitterly divided along religious, ethnic and tribal lines. Almost 4,000 people, mostly civilians, have been killed or wounded since the rebels ousted the communists, their common enemy.

At least a half dozen ceasefire agreements have been crafted since May.

Khalafat submits resignation

(Continued from page 1)

bership in the movement. "He (Khalafat) went against the will of the movement, but our institutions will surely know how to deal with this matter," said Mr. Akayleh.

Parliament's probe and subsequent vote centre on a 1987 contract, then worth JD 36-million, awarded to an Indian firm to build a reinforced concrete highway linking Iraq with Aqaba.

The House investigations Committee said it found that the contract was awarded without tender despite another lower bid which would have saved the treasury \$21 million.

The House decision to indict Mr. Hawamdeh and acquit Mr. Rifai and Mr. Odeh drew the

anger of the tribes of Tafleeh, who staged protest demonstrations this and last week calling for the trial of Mr. Rifai and the whole of his cabinet.

On Sunday, around 500 demonstrators from Tafleeh castigated Parliament for its decision to indict Mr. Hawamdeh and accused it of selectivity.

Banners and chants by the protesters were calling for the annulment of Parliament.

The five-hour demonstration almost passed without incident, but for the smashing of the windows of a police car, because police prevented protesters from heading to the Royal Palace to meet His Majesty King Hussein.

The protesters then converged on Mr. Hawamdeh's house and expressed solidarity with him.

Arafat welcomes Israel's plan to legalise PLO meetings

TUNIS (Agencies) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat has welcomed Israeli plans to legalise contacts with the PLO, and urged Israel's new government to go further by negotiating directly with it to achieve Middle East peace.

"This is a step to the right direction and a recognition by the Israeli government of a political reality which is obvious to everybody," Mr. Arafat told Reuters when asked to react to an Israeli statement.

Israel's Justice Ministry said earlier on Sunday it was drafting an amendment to a 1986 law banning contacts with the PLO. Egypt's Foreign Ministry also praised Israel's proposal to legalise meetings between Israeli subjects and PLO officials.

"This position is a step on the road towards recognising that the Palestinians outside (the Israeli-

occupied territories) have rights," said ministry spokesman Nagy Al Ghatiriy.

He said it moved Israel towards accepting that diaspora Palestinians "are a party in the peace process and have a right to choose their representatives."

Israeli officials said even if the Knesset, Israel's parliament, passes the bill, the Jewish state still will bar PLO participation in the peace talks.

The decision follows the election of a centre-left government led by Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

In his comments to Reuters, Mr. Arafat said: "But this step remains a sheer propaganda act with obvious aims if the Israeli government and Mr. Rabin in particular stopped short of the necessary courage to take the decision to negotiate directly with the PLO."

The former Israeli government led by hardline Premier Yitzhak Shamir had insisted that only Palestinians from the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, excluding Arab East Jerusalem, should be allowed to take part.

"Direct negotiations with the PLO are not only a political necessity, but also the base to secure the element of success in the peace process and to achieve the permanent, comprehensive and immediate solution to the Middle East problem," Mr. Arafat said.

The PLO leader said that such a solution, "based on the resolutions of the international legitimacy, will lead to the establishment of a Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital, and will culminate in the establishment of a confederation between Jordan and Palestine, according to the free choice of the two brotherly peoples."



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Adios, Olympics — Barcelona urges Atlanta to top this show



BARCELONA (AP) — After 16 days under the glow of the Olympic flame and the glare of the world's sports fans, Barcelona bid adios to the summer games Sunday with a spectacle unseen since the opening ceremony.

The closing ceremony featured King Juan Carlos, mimes, Carthusian horses, magicians, music, Plácido Domingo, the Olympic anthem, a volcano, some devils, a huge dragon, Andrew Lloyd Webber, fireworks and a rumba to wrap it all up.

No wonder they wait four years between these things.

Amid the pyrotechnics and pomp, Barcelona Mayor Pasqual Maragall called for a games that don't stop there.

"We ask... that sport will not be the victim of the arrogance of culture, nor culture the victim of arrogance of money, nor cities the victims of arrogance of commercialism," Mr. Maragall said.

The challenge now is for the southern U.S. city of Atlanta to top this Catalan Fiesta with its boycott-free assembly of 172 teams, Croatia, Lithuania and Slovenia, among others, competed as new nations. South Africa and Cuba returned after long political absences.

Atlanta Mayor Maynard Jackson, accepted the Olympic flag from Mr. Maragall just before the 1996 games' mascot, the computer-generated Whatzit, was given a six-minute introduction.

The ceremony later bid farewell to Cobi, the dog-like mascot of Barcelona's games.

"These have been, without doubt, the best games in Olympic history," International Olympic Committee President Juan Antonio Samaranch, a Barcelona native, told audience of 65,000 in the Olympic Stadium. "Once again, we have demonstrated the strength given by our union."

The enthusiastic live crowd

paled in comparison to the international television audience: An estimated 3.2 billion people.

Those on hand included the king and queen of Sweden, the grand duke and duchess of Luxembourg, the president of Lithuania and the prime ministers of Latvia and Bulgaria.

President George Bush sent "a special envoy": Arnold Schwarzenegger.

While 11,000 athletes marched in the opening ceremony, stretching it to four hours, only flag-bearers marched in the finale, though the athletes filled the field for the "bewitching gypsy" rumba at the end.

The games may be going, but their legacy will live on for years in this Mediterranean city, whose bid to play host had been passed over in 1924, 1936, 1940 and 1972.

The waterfront was renovated at a cost of \$1.8 billion, and \$2 billion was spent on sprucing up the rest of the city.

And in the games themselves, Spain enjoyed unprecedented success.

It finished in 10th place overall here with 22 medals, including 13 golds — more than it had collected in all previous Olympic history. On the last day, the men's water polo team took a silver to complete the stunning performance.

Success was not limited to Spain. During the games, there were 15 world records and 34 Olympic records set.

"We have aimed to transmit a powerful message of peace and respect for humanism and civility all over the world," Mr. Maragall told the closing crowd before the torch was extinguished.

"Barcelona has accomplished its goals, and the patrimony of the games will remain for all mankind."

The real Olympics

In the 1992 games Cubans dominated boxing, as expected. The Unified Team of former Soviets excelled at gymnastics, again. U.S. athletes were among the best on the track and in the pool.

So where was the Olympic drama, the excitement, the unexpected that usually keeps us sit-

ting on the edge of our seats?

Well, ask Lithuanian basketball star Sarunas Marciulionis, whose team celebrated a bronze medal as if it were gold.

"It's hard to explain our feelings. I'm sure it's a holiday for everybody," he said. "Our nation won."

Ask the Spanish, ecstatic over a record 13 gold medals. Or the South Africans, who two silver medals sweetened their return to the games after a 32-year exile.

Ask the Namibians, the Estonians, the Bahamians, the Croats and a dozen other nationalities whose Olympic moments were filled with passion and national pride that didn't necessarily make it onto your television screen.

While most eyes fix at the top of the Olympic medal chart, the names at the bottom may speak more to the success and excitement of these games.

Sixty-four nations came away from Barcelona with medals, a healthy 22 per cent increase over the 52 in 1988.

Even more impressive is the 52 per cent increase over the pre-boycott games of 1952-1976, when an average of 42 nations took home medals.

Much of this is due to the fracturing of the Soviet Union and its satellites. It has been 50 years or more since Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania were parties to the games. Slovenia, Croatia and Bosnia-Herzegovina, new names on the Olympic roster, came from the remnants of Yugoslavia.

Namibia, once controlled by South Africa, celebrated its independence with a debut Olympic appearance and two silver medals.

So while the U.S. appearance at opening ceremonies was marked with a celebrity frenzy over Magic and Michael, the emotion came with the crowd salute to team members of war-torn Croatia and Bosnia-Herzegovina, many who braved shelling and snipers to make it to Spain.

These new nationalisms serve to explain why a third-place finish in basketball was so important to Lithuania's Arvidas Sabonis, a 1988 gold medalist for the Soviet Union.

"This is the best thing that's ever happened in my life," he

said. "Winning the bronze medal makes me even happier than the gold I won. I shall dedicate this medal to the people of Lithuania."

Compare the ho-hum celebration of the U.S. basketball team's gold medal to the emotional outpouring over Lithuania's bronze.

Yes, Michael Jordan and Charles Barkley draped flags over their shoulders. But it was less patriotism and more a way for the Nike-sponsored athletes to cover the Reebok emblem on their team outfits.

In the Lithuanian locker room, emotions were flowing along with the champagne used to douse the athletes. President Vytautas Landsbergis, People embraced. The national anthem was sung through smiles and tears.

"If they're the dream team, we're the miracle team," Donn Nelson, the assistant coach, said. "The fact that they are playing under their own flag, a year ago they wouldn't have believed this."

But joy and celebration weren't limited to newcomers. Brazilian fans blew trumpets, beat drums and danced the samba as their team took its first gold medal in volleyball, defeating the Netherlands.

Gail Devers' spill in the women's 100-metre hurdles was a brief point of drama for viewers in the United States. But for the winner of the race, Paraskevi Patoulidou, and her homeland Greece, the finish was a miracle.

Patoulidou, the first Greek woman to medal in track, was overcome with emotion running the edge of the track in search of a Greek flag. Later she tearfully told of looking for her husband, a former Olympic weightlifter.

"I never did find him," she said. "I think he is somewhere alone and is crying."

Folks back in the United States may have chuckled their tongues over Devers' bad luck. Back in Greece, there probably wasn't a dry eye in the house.

Not perhaps the most important memory of these Olympics are the things that didn't happen: No boycotts, no protests, no scandals, no trouble, for the first time since 1964.

The Olympic Movement itself gets a medal for that.

Samaranch: War against drugs being won



Juan Antonio Samaranch

BARCELONA (R) — Olympic chief Juan Antonio Samaranch said Monday the war against drugs was being won — but a fifth athlete was tested positive in Barcelona.

"No to doping in sport — that is our message," the International Olympic Committee president told a news conference.

The last to test positive in Barcelona was Lithuanian women's long jumper Mijole Medvedeva whose urine was found to contain the banned stimulant Mesocarb.

Lithuania was competing at its first Olympics since the three Baltic states won independence last year from the Soviet Union.

"We have had only five cases — far less than Seoul," Mr. Samaranch said.

The 1988 Olympics were known as "the games of shame" after sprinter Ben Johnson was tested positive for steroids and stripped of his 100 metre crown. He was one of 10 drugs cheats thrown out of those games.

"I do sincerely believe we are winning this battle against doping," Mr. Samaranch said. "National (sports) federations should wage this battle even more intensely."

The image of international athletics has been tarnished by a string of high-profile doping cases involving elite competitors such as Johnson, German world champion sprinter Katrin Krabbe and American Butch Reynolds.

But International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) President Primo Nebiolo said: "We will not allow doping to be considered an athletic problem. It is one for all sport."

On Monday the IAAF council said it had extended a two-year suspension on 400 metres world record-holder Reynolds until the end of 1992 because he competed in defiance of a ban for taking steroids.

Mr. Samaranch, reviewing the Barcelona Olympics that ended Sunday, pledged the games would get no bigger in Atlanta in 1996, defended professionals in

the Olympics and said commercialism had been kept under control.

"Ten thousand athletes is the optimum figure," he said.

With the world map being rewritten so fast in the tempestuous last decade of the 20th century, he said: "By the time of Atlanta, we shall have 200 national Olympic committees but we have to recognise them."

He defended the appearance of the U.S. dream team basketball millionaires and pointed out that in the past "state athletes (from Eastern Europe) had even more support than the professional athletes from the West."

He also said he hoped top professional cyclists, including Tour de France winners, would be at future games.

Answering accusations that the Olympics had become a multi-billion dollar industry dominated by sponsors, he said no advertising was ever allowed at Olympic venues.

"You just have to keep commercialisation under control," he added.

The 72-year-old Barcelona industrialist confirmed he would stand again as IOC president in September 1993 after 13 years in the job.

Asked whether he expected to be re-elected unopposed for a further four-year term, he vowed: "When I have to fight, I fight."

As Barcelona bade farewell to Cobi, the quirky little dog that was the 1992 games mascot, the stadium at the closing ceremony was given its first glimpse of the Atlanta mascot — a hulky-eyed blue slug with Olympic rings on its head and tail.

Mr. Samaranch, brushing off press criticism of the mascot called Whatzit, chuckled and said: "Myself I like the mascot and I like the name."

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR TUESDAY AUGUST 11, 1992

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Gain the inspiration you need from high sources to help make your fondest dreams a reality. Do that which renews the proper spirit within you and you will feel happier with those closest to you.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) This is a day when whatever your daily routines happen to be you are exact and meticulous in doing them in a highly specialized fashion.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) You now are able to have those treatments at the beauty salon or barber shop of your choice that brings out your most attractive point.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Think about what can make your residence more operative and as you would like to have it and make minute plans now and put in motion at once.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Whatever information you have been looking for that can be helpful to you in greater daily productivity is a fine outlet for you now.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) You like to think in big and noble terms but this is the day for you to put aside large ambitions and to get whatever you possess in best condition.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) You like everything exact and

perfect and this is the day for you to see that everything of a personal nature is exactly in that condition.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) You have many intimate chores and tasks to perform and this is the day to get at them and get them in back of you and to enjoy doing all also.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Seek out those friends who are highly particular and who have the plan of life that most appeals to you and get ideas for using to your advantage.

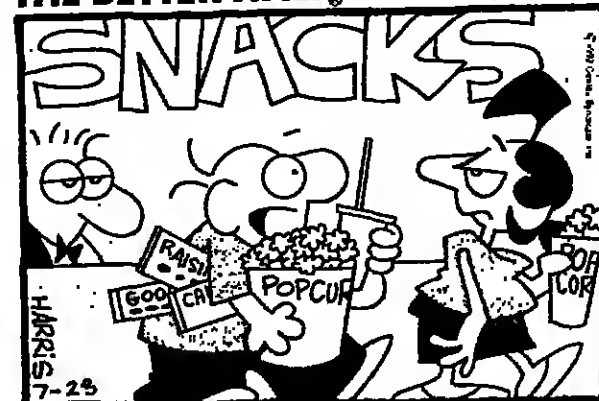
SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Keep your attention focused today upon whatever you have agreed to do in the world of outside activities and do vocational work well.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) You have an interesting advanced course of interest where it is necessary you be well informed of all facets of such a plan so learn them.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Obligations that you have agreed to attend to should occupy your time and attention so get them done in a highly organized manner for best results.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Now it is necessary to engage in considerable chit-chat and conversations with a partner if you are to come to that meeting of minds you both desire.

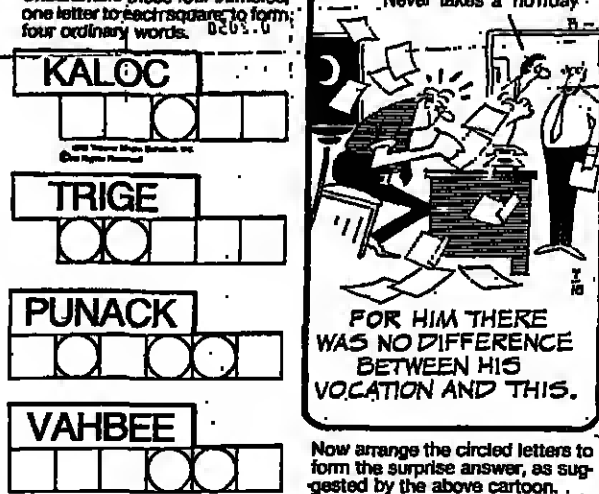
THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



"I don't like to laugh at movies. It interferes with my chewing."

JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square to form four ordinary words. 0203.0



Print answer here: A

Yesterday's Jumbles: FLUID HAVEN MUSCLE EXCITE

Answer: Why the cartoonists combed his hair with his toes — TO MAKE ENDS MEET

Atlanta, Host of 1996 games, unveils mascot 'Whatzit'

BARCELONA (AP) — Introducing Whatzit.

So what is it? Hard to say. Meet the mascot of the Atlanta Olympics, the 1996 Cobi model, unveiled Sunday night at the closing ceremonies of the XXV Olympiad.

A cutesy, cuddly... er... thing. A computer-generated character wearing oversized sneakers, with stars for eyes, olympic rings for eyebrows, and four-digit hands.

It can be anything you want. It can change itself into a basketball player, a swimmer, a runner. With the touch of a computer key it can take on any shape or size of an Olympian.

What Hooton the tiger was to Seoul, Sam the eagle to Los Angeles, Misha the bear to Moscow, and Cobi the canine to Barcelona, Whatzit is to Atlanta. But unlike the others, this mascot is no animal.

Well, maybe a party animal. It was selected from among 1,000 entries, including possums, squirrels, peanuts and even Willie B., the famous TV-watching gorilla at the Atlanta Zoo.

But organizers wanted something different, something reflecting Atlanta's pride in its high-tech industries and futuristic design.

The winning entry was produced by Designex, an Atlanta-based subsidiary of Crawford Communications Inc.

Initial reactions to the unveiling were puzzled. "What is it?" was most commonly heard about Whatzit.

"That's why we chose the name. That's what everyone kept asking us before. And because it's hard to describe, we thought it was perfect," said Billy Payne, president of the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games.

Approval was not unanimous. "It doesn't move my heart," said Peter Mosbus, vice president in charge of design for the 1994 Winter Olympics in Lillehammer, Norway. "But it does look American without being Walt Disney. To be honest, I don't like it."

After months of speculation — ranging from a lookalike Rhett Butler to a dancing peach and a cartoon coke bottle — Whatzit burst into the world cawing on a giant video screen at the Olympic Stadium before a crowd of 65,000 watching the closing ceremony.

The creature then slid off the screen to join a group of 55 white-clad dancers performing a sports ballet on stage to the sounds of jazz, top and hip-hop music. Standing 62 inches tall, Whatzit sported two lightning bolts on its head and a tail adorned with Olympic rings.

The nearly seven-minute Atlanta segment began with a video presentation of the city — today and yesterday — complete with the fictional flames of Gen. William Sherman torching the

city in Gone With The Wind.

It followed the handing of the Olympic flag by Barcelona Mayor Pasqual Maragall to a beaming Maynard Jackson, mayor of Atlanta, who waved it in the air and raised a triumphant fist.

Mr. Jackson, addressing reporters earlier in the day, said his city faces a tough challenge of living up to the standards set by Barcelona at the 1992 games.

Especially daunting is the comparison between Atlanta and the attractions of Barcelona, with its centuries-old architecture, its Mediterranean shoreline and its vibrant outdoors life.

"We may not have the Sagrada Familia," said Mr. Jackson, referring to the landmark spires of an unfinished cathedral conceived by modernist Catalan designer Antoni Gaudi. "But we do have the big chicken," a tongue-in-cheek reference to a landmark chicken-shaped billboard in suburban Atlanta.

After a ticker-tape parade and more than a year of special events to celebrate its winning bid, Atlanta has sobered up to the cost and logistical problems of staging the games that will mark the centennial of the modern Olympics.

Although construction has not begun on any of the new Olympic facilities, organizers of Atlanta's games heard in January that the estimated cost of staging the 1996 Olympics had risen by 40 per cent from the initial estimates.

The Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games (ACOG) reported that its 1989 estimate of \$1.01 billion needed to stage the games had risen to \$1.4 billion.

But ACOG also claimed it could raise additional revenue — as much as \$1.5 billion, instead of the original estimate of \$1.16 billion.

Peanuts



Andy Capp



Mutt'n'Jeff



GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TAMMAM HUSCH

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COUNT YOUR WAY OUT OF IT

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH

♠ 7 3

♥ 8 5 2

♦ A 6 4

♣ A 10 5 2

EAST

♠ 10 9 8 6 2

♥ J 9 7 4 3

♦ 9 2

♣ J 9 7 6

SOUTH

♠ K Q 4

♥ A K Q

♦ K Q 3

♣ K Q 8 3

The bidding:

South West North East

2 ♠ Pass 2 NT Pass

3 NT Pass 6 NT Pass

Pass Pass

Opening lead: Ten of ♠

If you were considering the North-South club holding in a vacuum, the best line of play for four tricks would be to first cash the king and queen, hoping either for a 3-2 split or, if the suit breaks 4-1 and the jack doesn't drop, that there is a marked finesse against West for the knave. However, you must consider all 13 cards when you're planning the play.

South's two-club opening was artificial and forcing and the jump to three no trump showed 25-27

points. North's two-diamond response was a waiting bid. After learning of the nature of partner's hand, North emerged from the bushes with a jump to slam.

West led a spade to East's ace, and declarer won the spade return. There were 11 fast tricks, and the 12th could come only from clubs.

Before committing to the club suit, declarer set out to learn as much as possible about the distribution.

First, declarer cashed three rounds of hearts, noting East's diamond discard on the last. Next came another spade, and again East parted with a diamond. When West followed to the king and queen of diamonds, declarer knew enough about the hands to discard all thoughts of a good club break or of finding West with the guarded jack.

West was known to have started with five cards in each major and two diamonds, so there was room for at most one club in the hand. Therefore, declarer continued with a club to the ace and the ten of clubs from dummy, intending to run it if East followed low. When East covered with the jack, declarer won, entered dummy with the ace of diamonds and led another club. East's 9 7 in the suit were trapped by declarer's K 8 — making six odd.

Financial Markets

In co-operation with
Cairo Amman Bank

Currency	NEW YORK CLOSE 7/18/92	TOKYO CLOSE 7/18/92
Sterling Pound	1.5895	1.3869
Deutsche Mark	1.5895	1.3869
Swiss Franc	1.5895	1.3869
French Franc	1.5895	1.3869
Japanese Yen	1.5895	1.3869
European Currency Unit	1.5895	1.3869

Currency	1 MONTH	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS
U.S. Dollar	3.25	5.51	5.43	5.08
Sterling Pound	10.00	10.18	10.31	10.31
Deutsche Mark	9.68	9.75	9.81	9.81
Swiss Franc	8.06	8.18	8.31	8.25
French Franc	9.93	10.12	10.18	10.18
Japanese Yen	4.06	4.00	3.81	3.81
European Currency Unit	10.62	10.62	10.62	10.62

Commodity	10/8/92
Gold	550.85
Silver	6.75
Copper	3.97
Oil	0.90

Currency	10/8/92
U.S. Dollar	0.669
Sterling Pound	1.2859
Deutsche Mark	0.4547
Swiss Franc	0.5075
French Franc	0.1545
Japanese Yen	0.5222
Dutch Guilder	0.4055
Swedish Krona	0.1252
Indian Rupee	0.0601
Belgian Franc	0.2213

Currency	10/8/92
U.S. Dollar	0.669
Sterling Pound	1.2859
Deutsche Mark	0.4547
Swiss Franc	0.5075
French Franc	0.1545
Japanese Yen	0.5222
Dutch Guilder	0.4055
Swedish Krona	0.1252
Indian Rupee	0.0601
Belgian Franc	0.2213

Index	8/8/92	Close	9/8/92	Close
All-Share	140.95		141.17	
Banking Sector	102.94		103.51	
Insurance Sector	151.23		150.53	
Industry Sector	193.44		193.61	
Services Sector	182.98		183.06	

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at mid-session on the London Foreign Exchange and Bullion Markets for Monday.

One Sterling	1.9245/55	U.S. dollars	1.4692/97
One U.S. dollar	1.6555/65	Canadian dollar	1.6555/65
	30.24/28	Deutsche marks	4.9650/70
	111.11/12	Swiss francs	127.83/88
	5.3345/85	French francs	5.3345/85
	5.7815/65	Japanese yen	5.7815/65
	5.6550/60	Swedish crowns	5.6550/60
One ounce of gold	\$350.50/\$351.00	Danish crowns	

ASIAN FINANCIAL MARKET

COUNTRY'S NAME	TRADING VOLUME '92	OPENING PRICE	CLOSING PRICE
JORDAN TELECOM BANK	286	3.830	3.860
JORDAN BANK	35,037	2.000	2.070
JORDAN COMMERCIAL BANK	24,208	2.130	2.140
JORDAN INVESTMENT BANK	23,801	2.100	2.170
JORDAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT	13,874	2.960	3.000
JORDAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT	17,821	1.230	1.220
JORDAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT	128,094	1.240	1.270
JORDAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT	205,293	2.150	2.280
JORDAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT	548,102	0.400	0.430
JORDAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT	61,428	133.600	133.750
JORDAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT	344,483	1.400	1.460
JORDAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT	728	2.950	2.980
JORDAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT	310	1.400	1.400
JORDAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT	16,370	4.260	4.370
JORDAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT	17,204	1.360	1.380
JORDAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT	108	0.720	0.700
JORDAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT	940	3.360	3.360
JORDAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT	87,874	1.400	1.470
JORDAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT	1,668	0.360	0.360
JORDAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT	14,308	0.840	0.870
JORDAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT	18,102	0.720	0.710
JORDAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT	8,290	1.480	1.500
JORDAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT	9,818	2.470	2.430
JORDAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT	53,137	7.260	7.400
JORDAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT	9,032	9.800	9.800
JORDAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT	20,532	6.710	6.710
JORDAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT	22,952	5.130	5.130
JORDAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT	497,148	4.890	4.990
JORDAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT	2,168	5.950	5.700
JORDAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT	50,907	2.400	2.390
JORDAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT	5,450	1.900	1.910
JORDAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT	11,748	4.630	4.630
JORDAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT	6,734	0.740	0.750
JORDAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT	993	2.820	2.860
JORDAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT	8,100	2.900	2.700
JORDAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT	50,323	1.100	1.170
JORDAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT	1,740	0.870	0.880
JORDAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT	17,985	12.900	12.850
JORDAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT	4,670	2.250	2.300
JORDAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT	14,878	1.760	1.760
JORDAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT	5,490	2.900	2.900
JORDAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT	623	1.600	1.660
JORDAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT	16,283	1.050	1.090
JORDAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT	57,808	2.950	2.990
JORDAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT	72,952	5.130	5.130
JORDAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT	244,346	3.620	3.620
JORDAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT	16,478	1.210	1.270
JORDAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT	763	1.380	1.380
JORDAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT	3,857	4.500	5.000
JORDAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT	51,234	0.500	0.500
JORDAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT	50,371	6.000	6.020
JORDAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT	29,680	3.190	3.170
JORDAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT	1,890	21.000	21.000
JORDAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT	12,223	6.320	6.320

Kuwaitis rush to buy dollars

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwaitis overreacted to an increase in tension with Iraq by rushing to buy dollars, the head of the emirate's Central Bank said in remarks published on Monday.

Central Bank Governor Sheikh Salem Abdul-Aziz Al-Sabah told Sawt-Al-Kuwait newspaper the reaction was irrational because measures taken to support the Kuwaiti dinar during and after Iraq's seven-month occupation should give people confidence.

"There is no rational justification for the behaviour some people have adopted in their rush to hold cash dollars," he said, adding that the situation was far better than it had been immediately after the Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait in February 1991.

"The reason for people's change in behaviour was due to psychological factors resulting from the occupation in addition to the escalation (in tension) the region has witnessed in the past few days," he said.

Sheikh Salem gave no figures for foreign exchange demand, which normally increases in summer because many Kuwaitis go abroad for holidays.

Bankers in the emirate said demand for dollars peaked at the second August 2 anniversary of Iraq's invasion of Kuwait which coincided with Iraq's reiteration to its claim to "the emirate".

Bankers also mentioned that said buying had declined after the weekend, reflecting a decrease in tension.

"Demand seems to have peaked last week — it's been far quieter the last couple of days and the level of dollar buying is probably around 50 per cent of what it was," the head of one bank's treasury department said.

The U.S. currency was selling at 298 fils per dollar last week, compared with an official rate of 294 fils. Moneychangers said it has since fallen to 295 fils.

Iranian industries report increased output

NICOSIA (AP) — Iran's petrochemical industries reported a 46 per cent increase in production during the first quarter of the Iranian year, and steel output was up by 33 per cent, Tehran Radio reported Monday.

The broadcast, monitored in Nicosia, said production of petrochemicals from March to June, the first quarter of the year that begins March 21, totalled 1.8 million tonnes, a 46 per cent increase over the same period last year.

Output at two key installations, one in Shiraz and the other in Bandar Imam Khomeini, totalled 630,000 tonnes, or 57 per cent higher than last year, the radio said.

First quarter steel production was about 1 million tons, a 33 per cent increase over last year, the radio said in a separate report. It said copper yield was also up by 12 per cent totalling 22,000 tons.

Iran has been trying to raise production in its key industries, which were damaged or destroyed in the 1980-88 war with Iraq.

But it has put special emphasis on petrochemicals in an effort to cut down on \$2 billion in annual imports.

Taiwan wields foreign currency reserves; denies charges of using 'dollar diplomacy'

TAIPEI (R) — Taiwan is mobilising its huge foreign currency reserves, the world's largest, to fuel its economic boom and expand the island's international influence.

After years in which the reserves merely accumulated and were left to gather interest in deposits at foreign banks, Taiwan's Central Bank is using them more actively as a policy tool, officials and private analysts say.

We are employing the reserves not only to boost the domestic economy, but also to expand our economic muscle internationally," Central Bank Governor Samuel Shieh said.

He said in an interview the reserves had become "a diplomatic asset" as well as a financial asset in Taiwan's struggle to win international recognition in the face of opposition from China, which views the island as a renegade province.

Boosted by years of big trade surpluses and recent exchange rate fluctuations, the reserves hit a record high of \$84.6 billion in May compared with \$82.6 billion in April and \$73.8 billion in May 1991. They were around \$23 billion in 1985.

In the past, the government has drawn criticism from both economists and the general public for passively holding the reserves in foreign banks, where they provided little direct benefit to Taiwan's economic development.

Now the reserves are being used more aggressively. In February the Central Bank said it would allocate \$10 billion from

the reserves to finance overseas investment by local firms and major development projects in Taiwan's six-year plan.

Over \$1 billion has been allocated since then, including a loan of \$790 million to Taiwanese Airline Eya Airways to fund aircraft purchases and \$245 million to the Formosa Plastics Group to build petrochemical plants in the United States.

The Central Bank had in the past provided over \$1 billion to large and small firms including state-run Chinese Petroleum Corp to make acquisitions in the United States and elsewhere.

has dropped sharply.

In 1985, most of Taiwan's reserves were held in form of U.S. dollar bank deposits and about 90 per cent were deposited in institutions in the United States, Shieh said.

Now about a third of the reserves are held in the United States, one third in Europe and the rest in Japan, Canada, Australia and other countries, he said. Between 55 and 60 per cent are denominated in U.S. dollars.

About 55 per cent of the reserves are in the form of securities issued by foreign governments and institutions such as the

"We are employing the reserves not only to boost the domestic economy, but also to expand our economic muscle internationally," — Taiwan's Central Bank Governor Samuel Shieh.

The Central Bank has also deposited over \$300 million at overseas branches of local banks to aid their expansion abroad in the past few years, Shieh said.

Since 1989 it has allocated \$7 billion as seed capital to expand Taiwan's interbank foreign currency loan market as part of the island's drive to become an Asian financial centre.

The Central Bank has also become more active in shifting the reserves between different currencies and geographical areas to minimise risk and maximise interest. In recent years, the proportion held in the United States

World Bank (WB) and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the rest in bank deposits covering eight or nine major currencies.

Shieh said the Central Bank had recently become the largest Asian buyer of U.S. government securities, purchasing a net \$5.41 billion of notes and bonds in the first quarter of 1992. In 1991, it bought a net \$10.06 billion.

The shift into government securities was prompted by falls in bank interest rates, and sales of U.S. bonds by Japan helped Taiwan emerge as the largest Asian buyer, Shieh said.

Taiwan's accumulation of re-

White S. African farmers fear land reform, drought

BOTHAVILLE, South Africa (R) — South African maize producers are farming in near desert conditions because of the worst drought in 50 years.

But rain alone won't ensure that survival.

The white farmers who grow the staple food of the black majority say they are also seeking a guaranteed role for commercial agriculture in a post-apartheid economy.

Struggling with drought, growing debt, soaring crime and the prospect of a future government redistributing their land to blacks, the country's 10,000 maize farmers are beginning to wonder seriously whether they have a future.

Drought is only the most immediate danger.

"We are farming in a desert," said Gil Van Zyl, general manager of the National Maize Producers' Organisation (NAMPO).

"No one in his right mind in the Northern Hemisphere would use this kind of land for grain cropping," Van Zyl said at his headquarters in this sleepy Orange Free State province town.

"But what other crops do we diversify into? There is a premium on the production of this nation's staple food."

"And if we become a net importer of food we become dependent on the United States and the European Community — for food — which is just what they would like."

Maize is South Africa's most valuable field crop and in a normal year the harvest totals about nine million tonnes, with yields of about two tonnes per hectare (2.5 acres).

The government says it expects a 1991/92 crop of less than a third of that — 2.9 million tonnes — with a yield of 0.84 tonnes per hectare. The harvesting season is May to August.

South Africa, normally among the top maize exporters, is importing five million tonnes this year to feed the population.

Most maize is grown in the semi-arid Free State and Transvaal, where full-blown drought happens every few years.

"The drought simply came as a knockout blow to many already on the ropes," said NAMPO Chairman Cornelius Claes.

Farmers in the Bothaville area say a third of their colleagues have gone out of business this year, revenue sapped by drought and unable to pay massive debts.

A 2.4 billion rand (\$1 billion) government rescue package for agriculture is only temporary relief on payments on total farm debt of 18 billion rand (\$6 billion).

The drought has sapped the ability of the surviving farmers to pay for inputs in the 1992/93 season.

But the farmers have more than debt to worry about.

The white minority government says agriculture is a strategic concern because it is the largest provider of jobs with 1.3 million employees and a further seven million people dependent on it and associated industries for

their livelihood.

But Nelson Mandela's African National Congress (ANC) says South Africa should not pursue maize self-sufficiency because the semi-arid land where it is grown is unsuitable for the crop and its production requires excessive financial support.

Instead, maize should be imported and money currently used to support maize farmers diverted to more productive use.

With seven million black households, some farmland should be given over to blacks for subsistence farming, the ANC says.

Farmers' fears are worsened by growing lawlessness. Stock theft by blacks occurs daily and many of the raiding parties are organised by impoverished whites, farmers say.

Black squatter camps are growing because of the lifting of apartheid restrictions on black housing, while towns shrink as rising unemployment sends whites heading for the cities.

"Businesses including hotels are closing in droves and the livelihood of chemists, butchers, doctors, mechanics, you name it, is being threatened," Van Zyl said.

Farmer Johan Hofman, inspecting his dusty, scorched maize fields, said the overlay of sand had trebled in thickness to 15 centimetres because of this year's drought.

Neighbour Norman Payne said he had to sink boreholes 60 metres to find water, when normally 20 would do.

Like many other farmers Payne and Hofman have tried to protect themselves against drought by moving into other grains and vegetables, as well keeping livestock, although they say diversification is limited by water availability.

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KIO starts urgent debt payments

MADRID (R) — Prima Inmobiliaria SA, a Spanish real estate company controlled by the Kuwait Investment Office (KIO), on Monday began making interest payments under a debt moratorium plan presented to creditors last week.

A spokesman for Grupo Torras, KIO's 100 per cent owned industrial holding company which has a 27 per cent direct stake in Prima, said the most urgent payments were being made to banks and to construction companies.

Prima has a consolidated debt of 70 billion pesetas (\$746 million), of which \$2 billion pesetas (\$554 million) is of the parent company. It at present holds 95 per cent of Urbanor, which has a debt of about 17 billion pesetas (\$181 million).

Under a plan unveiled to creditors last Wednesday, it would provide 3.5 billion pesetas (\$37.3 million) to service interest and payments to contractors during two months.

The money is being loaned by Torras, with 1.5 billion pesetas (\$16 million) of it for loan interest and the rest for contractors.

Oil prices ease

LONDON (R) — Oil prices eased on Friday when the market decided that Thursday's brisk run-up on renewed tensions between the United States and Iraq had been overdone.

U.S. President George Bush's latest pronouncement about Iraq on Friday was seen, as one London-based broker put it, as being "more steadfast than warlike."

Brokers said that Bush remarks lacked the sort of specific threat of force that could have propelled oil prices higher.

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CONCORD

V.I. WARSHAWSK

Shows: 3:30, 6:45, 8:30, 10:30

PHILADELPHIA

The Naked Gun 2½
The Small of Fear

Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30

The Fox and the Hound

Special shows for children at 11 a.m. Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays

Nabil Al Mashini Theatre

at 6:00 p.m. daily

Shahrazad and Sinbad play

A quiet comedy for all members of the family (adults and kids). Prior reservation is needed.

The next show is:
(Taa' Waqaymeh)

AHLAN THEATRE

Nabil and Hisham

(former Rainbow cinema)

"Ahlam New World and Local Orders"

Show starts at 9 p.m.

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Armenia seeks CIS help against Azerbaijan

MOSCOW (R) — Armenian President Levon Ter-Petrosian accused Azerbaijan of launching "undeclared war" and appealed to CIS states to aid Armenia.

ITAR-TASS News Agency said Mr. Ter-Petrosian invoked a collective security pact signed in May by six members of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS). It obliges each to help the rest if attacked.

"Aggression has been committed against a state which is a member of the CIS and the system of collective security," he said in a telegram to leaders of the other five states of the defence alliance.

Mr. Ter-Petrosian called on the heads of state to "fulfil their obligations before the Republic of Armenia by using political, military or other methods to prevent a war."

The appeal — the first time a member state has invoked the security treaty — was prompted by major gains by Azerbaijan in the four-year conflict between the two former Soviet republics.

Over 2,000 people have died in the fighting. Reports from both sides said Azerbaijani forces had captured Artashen, a pocket of Armenian territory within western Azerbaijan.

Azeri reports said the armed forces had "liberated" the town, destroying enemy tanks and weaponry and killing 300 Armenians. Armenian reports mentioned no dead but said 29 people were "missing without trace."

Casualty claims in the conflict have often been highly exaggerated, but are hard to verify.

Mr. Ter-Petrosian's telegram described the attack on Artashen and the Azeri bombing of Armenian territory as "the beginning of undeclared war."

The conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan is the deadliest of the many ethnic disputes left behind by the collapse of the Soviet Union.

Frequent peace missions have ended in deadlock, and members

of the Commonwealth of Independent States are unlikely to greet the Armenian request with much enthusiasm.

Six CIS members — Russia, Armenia and four Central Asian republics — created the defence union last May at a summit in the Uzbek capital of Tashkent. Azerbaijan refused to join.

Armenia and Russia have discussed deploying CIS or international peacekeeping troops to halt the fighting, which has spread from the small disputed enclave of Nagorno-Karabakh to engulf border regions as well.

Azerbaijan has resisted the peacekeeping proposal as threatened interference in its internal affairs.

Armenia's Foreign Ministry accused Azerbaijan at the weekend of escalating the conflict and advancing "propaganda" peace proposals to veil its alleged military aggression.

Azerbaijan, in turn, blamed Armenia for the latest upsurge in violence.

Azeri forces were driven out of Nagorno-Karabakh in May after a string of Armenian victories.

But they have since regained a foothold in the enclave, which is surrounded by Azeri territory but populated by Armenians.

The Azeri News Agency Turan said the national army tightened its grip on the town of Mardakert in eastern Nagorno-Karabakh, killing 50 Armenian fighters and destroying an enemy tank and five armoured personnel carriers.

It added that Azeri fighters had cut vital Armenian transport arteries near the town of Lachin, a corridor through which Azerbaijan accuses its enemy of smuggling weapons and soldiers into Nagorno-Karabakh.

Armenia says the Lachin route is being used to ship humanitarian aid to the enclave.

Armenian reports said an Azeri aircraft was shot down near Mardakert Friday night during an attempted offensive which, they added, was beaten back by Armenian units.

Azerbaijan Monday dismissed Armenian charges that it had launched "undeclared war" in the Caucasus and said it had no fear that fellow CIS states would join the conflict on Armenia's side.

Azeri Foreign Ministry spokesman Gabil Kochari said by telephone from the capital Baku, Azerbaijan had no fear of being isolated against Russia, Armenia and four Central Asian states which pledged under the security pact last May to come to each other's aid if attacked.

"I don't think that Turkmenistan, Kazakhstan or Uzbekistan can declare war on Azerbaijan," Mr. Kochari said. "Six countries signed this collective protocol but I think there are many differences preventing parts of it from being implemented."

A Russian Foreign Ministry spokesman declined to comment.

Asked how he expected Russia to respond, Mr. Kochari replied: "I think they will study the latest events carefully and seek a compromise to stop the conflict growing."

Meanwhile, Azerbaijan's foreign minister arrived in Ankara Monday for talks on his country's conflict with Armenia on the disputed enclave of Nagorno-Karabakh and on ways of boosting cooperation with Turkey.

"Turkey is our greatest helper. We want Turkey's aid in establishing links with the world," Tofik Gasmov told the Anatolian News Agency on his arrival.

Turkish Foreign Minister Hikmet Cetin, welcoming Mr. Gasmov at Ankara Airport, called for a peaceful solution to the Karabakh dispute.

"Armenia must withdraw from Azeri lands it has occupied. All obstacles to the convening of the Minsk conference must be removed," he said.

Rome talks, attended by 11 nations to prepare for Karabakh peace talks in the Belorussian capital of Minsk, broke down Wednesday.

Turkey backs Azerbaijan with which it has religious and ethnic links.

Gorazde fighting kills 3 as West mulls response

SARAJEVO (R) — At least three people were killed and 16 wounded in the besieged east Bosnian town of Gorazde Sunday during fighting between Muslim forces and rebel Serbs, the Bosnian president said Monday.

The two sides battled throughout Sunday and Serbs threatened a final offensive to capture Gorazde where 70,000 people have been trapped since April. Serbian forces claim 2,500 Serbs are being held hostage in a concentration camp in the town.

Sarajevo Radio journalists said Monday the Bosnian capital had its quietest night for a week.

Three Muslim snarls of Sarajevo were lightly shelled Sunday evening in attacks which left at least one dead and three wounded.

An local Serb commander, quoted by Tanjug, said the Serbs were about to launch a decisive final assault to capture Gorazde.

The surge of fighting came as Western nations mull the consequences of military intervention in Bosnia and the republic's beleaguered government accused them of seeking excuses to avoid it.

U.S. and British leaders said the U.N. Security Council was nearing agreement on a resolution to authorise the use of force to ensure that humanitarian aid reached victims of the fighting.

But acting U.S. Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger stressed that there were no immediate plans to commit U.S. or



An injured Serbian fighter is carried to safety during bombardment of Gorazde in Bosnia.

other foreign military forces to the conflict.

"We're talking about what we're going to do to use force here if necessary in a situation in which we don't get into a quagmire from which we cannot extract ourselves," he told CBS Television.

British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd said he believed military action would be justified if it could end alleged atrocities in Serb-run detention camps.

Reports of the torture and execution of prisoners in Serb camps, still unsubstantiated by independent evidence, have led to demands for air strikes on Serb forces and military action to secure humanitarian aid routes inside Bosnia.

U.S. President George Bush said all options were open but military intervention was no "quick and easy" solution.

Such caution by Western leaders increased the frustration of Bosnia's Muslims and Croats

whose vote in March for independence from Yugoslavia sparked a revolt by the minority Serbs.

Bosnian Foreign Minister Haris Silajdzic accused European governments, particularly Britain and France, of seeking excuses against intervening to protect his republic from what he described as Serbian aggression.

"Most painful of all is that civilised Europe is ready to invent so many excuses not to do anything," he said during a visit to Pakistan.

COLUMN 8

Airline withdraws controversial magazine

BANGKOK (R) — Austrian airline Lauda Air said Monday it was withdrawing the latest edition of its inflight magazine after accusations from a Thai children's rights group that a cartoon promoted sex with young girls. A few dozen people from the task force to end child exploitation in Thailand demonstrated in the street outside the airline's Bangkok office Monday holding signs saying "protect the rights of children — do not fly Lauda Air" and "stop taking advantage of children's suffering." A double-page cartoon in the latest issue of the inflight magazine showed four mock postcards. One said "from Thailand with love" and showed a young girl naked from the waist up. Another page shows the reverse of the cards. On the Thai card, four German tourists boast of the sexual pleasures of Bangkok and in particular a place called the Baby Club. "It was a cartoon by a famous Austrian cartoonist," Lauda Air's public relations and Advertising Manager Elizabeth Werber told Reuters from the airline's Vienna headquarters. "We did not know this would appear. We were as surprised as anyone in Bangkok," she said. The magazine was produced by an independent company under contract to Lauda, which did not check its contents before it was issued, she said. It had been in circulation for two months. The offending issue had been withdrawn, Ms. Werber said.

Boy hits second hole-in-one in three months

WHANGAREI, New Zealand (R) — Most golfers spend a lifetime trying to hit a hole-in-one but an 11-year-old New Zealand boy hit his second in three months. David McDonald, who plays off a 25 handicap, acted on par three 140-metre 14th hole at Sherwood Park, Whangarei, while representing his club in a junior competition. He used a three wood club from the tee and the ball landed just in front of the pin and hopped in. In May, using the same club, he holed-in-one on the Northland Club Course during another junior tournament. "I've been trying without success for about 30 years to hole-in-one and David does it twice within three months at the age of 11," said the boy's father Micky McDonald.

Italian powerboat wins Atlantic race

LONDON (AP) — The Italian powerboat Destriero, hacked by the Aga Khan, claimed the world record for an eastbound Atlantic crossing and won the Virgin Atlantic Challenge Trophy. The 222-foot (67.3-metre) Destriero, which cost more than \$40 million, left New York Thursday. It passed the finishing point at Bishop's Rock near England's southwest coast at 5:14 a.m. (0414 GMT) Sunday in a record time of 58 hours 34 minutes and 58 seconds. The previous record of 79 hours 54 minutes was set by the Catamaran Hoverspeed Great Britain in 1990. She received, and retains, the coveted Hales Trophy, better known as the Blue Riband, since she was classed as a commercial vessel. Destriero is classed as a yacht by the trophy's trustees and was not eligible for the Blue Riband. Instead the sponsors, the Italian yacht club Costa Smeralda, received the Virgin Atlantic Challenge Trophy awarded by airline entrepreneur and adventurer Richard Branson. Branson successfully completed the crossing in 1986 with his powerboat Virgin Atlantic Challenger only to have it sink after striking an object in the sea.

West's pets eat better than world's refugees — scientists

LONDON (R) — Dogs and cats in Western households eat better than homeless people driven out of the world's trouble spots, according to British scientists. Their pet food is more nutritious in vitamins and mineral content than the typical rations given by relief workers to refugees, say researchers in a letter to this week's Lancet medical journal. They said experiments had shown that pet food eaten by dogs and cats contained more riboflavin, niacin, vitamin A and iron than the same quantity of a typical refugee ration. A daily refugee ration was described as around 400 g (14 oz) of cereals, 30 g (1.05 oz) of lentils or legumes, 20 g (0.75 oz) of oil and a small quantity of sugar.

WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

Indian landslide death toll nears 100

GUWAHATI, India (R) — Rescue teams have recovered 30 bodies and another 68 are feared buried under a huge landslide which smashed into a village in India's northeastern state of Mizoram, police said Monday. Rescue operations were halted Sunday night due to heavy rain, falling boulders and darkness, senior police official Kiran Bedi told Reuters by telephone from the Mizoram capital of Aizawl. "Those who are trapped under the landslide have very little chance of survival after 30 hours," said Mr. Bedi, who is heading the rescue in the remote forested region. Huge boulders flattened huts housing migrant labourers at a quarry in the village of Hlmen, 10 kilometres from Aizawl, when a hillside collapsed in heavy rain Sunday morning, he said. "Massive rocks and boulders ran down the hills followed by tonnes of mud," said Victor Zairma, secretary of the Young Mizo Organisation whose volunteers are helping in the rescue. "The eastern part of the village is totally covered. It looks like the whole hill came down on the village."

Seoul police storm campuses, arrest 80

SEOUL (R) — Thousands of riot police firing tear-gas staged dawn raids on two Seoul University campuses on Monday, arresting 80 student activists including a German and a Turk for planning outlawed pro-unification rallies, police said. About 3,500 riot police stormed Chungang University and nearby Soongsil University, a police officer said. Witnesses said hundreds of students at Chungang fought back, hurling petrol bombs and stones from the roof of a building. Police seized about 80 students, mostly at Chungang, the planned venue for a series of rallies by students from all over the country from Aug. 12 to 17, the officer said. The arrested students included two foreigners identified as German citizen Iliam Kizilhan, 27, and 24-year-old Turkish passport holder Aydin Dogan, a police source said. Police also held several others wanted for leading illegal anti-government protests, a police source said.

U.K. bans Irish Protestant group

BELFAST (R) — The British government Monday outlawed the last legal Protestant extremist group in the strife-ridden province of Northern Ireland. The Northern Ireland Office said the Ulster Defence Association (UDA) would be banned from midnight Monday. The UDA is considered a front organisation for a banned group, the Ulster Freedom Fighters (UFF), which has in the past claimed responsibility for killing Roman Catholics in the province. The 21-year-old sectarian and political conflict in Northern Ireland pits Protestant groups, seeking to maintain the province's links with Britain, against the Irish Republican Army (IRA) and other Catholic groups which are fighting to end British rule.

Russian-French space mission returns

LONDON (R) — The Soyuz TM-14 spacecraft carrying two Russians and a Frenchman returned safely to Earth Monday after a two-week mission, Moscow Radio reported. The radio, monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation, said the craft landed on schedule in Kazakhstan. The three men — Alexander Viktorenko, Alexander Kaleri, and Frenchman Michel Tognini — were expected to arrive in the Moscow region later Monday, it added. The three cosmonauts returned from the Mir orbital station after a mission that breathed new life into the ageing Russian space base. Viktorenko and Kaleri had named Mir for eight months. Tognini joined the space mission last month with two other Russians — Anatoly Solovoy and Sergei Avdeyev — who are set to stay in orbit until January.

Miyazawa to send emperor to China

TOKYO (R) — The Japanese government has decided to override opposition from right-wingers and go ahead with a controversial state visit to China by Emperor Akihito this year, sources in the ruling party said Monday. Emperor Akihito's visit, the first by a Japanese monarch, will mark 20 years of diplomatic relations between Peking and Tokyo. Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa, formally asked by the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) to make the final decision on the imperial visit, will notify the party's executive board of his approval at a meeting later Monday, the sources said.

Sikhs kill 31 in revenge for leader's death

AMRITSAR, India (R) — Sikh militants shot dead 31 relatives of policemen in the north Indian state of Punjab in revenge for the killing of a militant leader, police said Monday.

Sikhs armed with automatic rifles picked out the victims in four villages in the Barnala area of the state late Sunday night.

Police had earlier that day killed one of the most wanted militants in the decade-long insurgency.

In the village of Bakhtgarh, the militants gathered 14 people together in a schoolyard, shouted slogans for an independent Punjab and shot them dead, a police spokesman in Amritsar said.

The militants dragged victims in the other three villages out of their homes and shot them dead, the spokesman said. Two people were seriously injured in the attacks, he said.

The attacks were apparently in revenge for the killing of Sukhdev Singh, chief of the Babbar Khalsa International militant group, who was shot dead by police near the industrial Punjab city of Ludhiana Sunday morning, police said.

He was wanted in connection with some 1,000 killings, they added. Mr. Singh was the third leading Sikh militant killed by police in less than two weeks. Like the others, he was found after a tip-off.

On July 30, police raided a house in a plush Ludhiana suburb and killed Gurjant Singh Budhsinghwal, head of a faction of the Khalistan Liberation Force (KLF).

Four days later they raided a house near the Sikh holy city of Amritsar where KLF leaders were meeting to decide on a successor to Budhsinghwal.

The man chosen, Navraj Singh Dhotian, was among five militants killed in the raid, police said.

All were leading figures in the Sikh campaign in the northern state of Punjab for an independent homeland they call Khalistan, or Land of the Pure.

Senior police officials said the death of Sukhdev Singh was the most significant of their recent success. More than 20,000 people, most of them Sikhs and most of them in Punjab, have been killed since the campaign began in 1981.

S. Africa considers calls to probe township violence

JOHANNESBURG (R) — The South African government said Monday it was studying proposals by a judge probing township violence for a general amnesty and a mandate to investigate fully both the security forces and black guerrillas.

Judge Richard Goldstone made a call Saturday for a neutral body to investigate the white-led police and defence forces and the military wings of the African National Congress (ANC) and black radical Pan Africanist Congress.

"We will study it in detail and will react at a later stage," a Law and Order Ministry spokesman said.

Political sources expected no detailed response until after Wednesday's weekly cabinet meeting.

Addressing black suspicion of the security forces and white fears of the ANC's armed wing Umkhonto We Sizwe, Judge Goldstone also proposed a general amnesty to enable his independent commission to investigate their activities better.

Judge Goldstone's proposal followed a report by U.N. Secretary General Boutros Ghali, who called for a 30-member observer team for South Africa and an

investigation to end township bloodshed which has killed 12,000 people since 1984.

ANC leader Nelson Mandela cited the violence and President F.W. de Klerk's inability to stop it as a major reason for suspending democracy talks in June after the Boipatong massacre which killed at least 43 people.

Mandela says the white-minority government must address the violence before the negotiations resume.

But confident after a week of pro-democracy protests and strikes which mobilised millions of voteless blacks impatient, for change, he has made conciliatory remarks indicating he is optimistic negotiations will resume.

Mr. De Klerk has also expressed willingness to put the dialogue back on track and Friday he and Mr. Mandela spoke by telephone for the first time in weeks.

The police have come under criticism from anti-apartheid and independent groups since Boipatong.

A leading South African pathologist said two weeks ago that police were regularly killing prisoners in custody. A British criminologist castigated police for inefficiency.

Only economic upturn could save Bush — poll

BOSTON (Agencies) — Only an economic turnaround could significantly improve President George Bush's chances of reelection, according to a national opinion poll.

The poll, conducted for the Boston Globe, found that if the election were held today, Democratic presidential nominee Bill Clinton and his running-mate, Senator Al Gore, would beat Mr. Bush and Vice President Dan Quayle by 56 to 32 per cent.

But almost one-third of those polled said they would be more likely to vote for Mr. Bush if the U.S. economy improved including 39 per cent of undecided voters and 19 per cent of those who said they supported Mr. Clinton.

The survey of 600 likely voters was conducted for the newspaper from last Monday to Wednesday by KRC Communications Research.

It also found that one in five Republican voters said they would like to see Mr. Bush step down so the party could nominate someone else. His overall approval rating was 31 per cent.

At the end of the Gulf war last year, Mr. Bush's approval rating soared to 90 per cent.

But even without Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein now would have no effect on 76 per cent of those asked in the nationwide opinion poll, the poll showed. Of those asked, only three per cent put foreign policy issues as a top priority.

They ranked behind the question of abortion at nine per cent and the environment at four per cent as voters' concerns.

Further questioning revealed that most of those surveyed would trust Mr. Bush over Mr. Clinton in a crisis. The president also scored well when voters were asked which candidate has "the moral conduct and strength of character" they would most like

to see in a president.

But Mr. Clinton outscored Mr. Bush consistently on a range of domestic issues. He was chosen over Mr. Bush as the candidate who would perform better on jobs, the economy, health care and education.

People who claimed to have been supporters of withdrawn candidate Ross Perot picked Mr. Clinton over Mr. Bush by margins of 3-1, the poll showed.

Poll officials said it had a four-point margin of error.

A second opinion poll found that Mr. Clinton also had a substantial lead over the president in Bush's adopted home state of Texas.

The Houston Chronicle reported that 43 per cent of the 835 voters it surveyed favoured Mr. Clinton over Mr. Bush. Just 29 per cent preferred the president.

The poll, conducted by the University of Houston Centre for Public Policy, found that Mr. Bush trailed throughout Texas and even in the Houston area, where he was a congressman in the late 1960s and claims a hotel room as his home.

Economic worries were the main concern of those surveyed, the Chronicle said. Other issues, such as abortion, were well down the list, the newspaper said.

The Texas survey was conducted between July 31 and Aug. 5 and has a margin of error of four per cent.

Meanwhile, Mr. Bush was at his vacation home in Kennebunkport, Maine, Sunday, where he has cut short a vacation from two weeks to four days and has focused on world events.

Mr. Bush held his third news conference in three days on ethnic warfare in the former Yugoslav republics. He was scheduled to meet Monday and Tuesday with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

Last week Mr. Bush asked the

United Nations to adopt a resolution permitting the use of force if necessary to deliver humanitarian aid to Bosnia-Herzegovina.

On Sunday, Mr. Clinton tried to cast himself as a potential commander in chief and took credit for Mr. Bush's tougher stand on Bosnia.

Now "that the administration has moved to a position that I have advocated," Mr. Clinton said, the White House should develop military options if diplomatic pressure doesn't work to open detention camps and relief efforts in the former Yugoslavia.

Mr. Clinton and running mate Al Gore Jr. talked defence cuts and foreign policy with the two chairmen of the Congressional Armed Services Committee: Sen. Sam Nunn and Rep. Les Aspin.

At a news conference later, both Sen. Nunn and Mr. Aspin said Mr. Bush's new and harder line on the situation in the former Yugoslav republics was prompted by Mr. Clinton's remarks calling for potential air strikes against the Serbs.

Mr. Bush has bristled at such suggestions.

At the outset of the news conference, Mr. Clinton said his meeting with Sen. Nunn and Mr. Aspin was part of an ongoing effort to prepare himself on foreign policy and defence matters.

Mr. Clinton said he thinks that the arms embargo on Bosnia and Croatia should be reconsidered, but added he was not calling for lifting it immediately.

He said force should only be used to open the detention camps and expand the relief effort. He added he hoped diplomatic efforts might bring an end to the conflict.

Also Sunday, Mr. Clinton met with Cyprus President George Vassiliou, at Mr. Vassiliou's request.

President Bush — at a historic low in California polls — is planning frequent visits to the recession-battered state and is beginning his campaign by sending Vice President Dan Quayle there this week.

Not since 1964 has a Republican presidential candidate failed to take the "golden state."

But California Democrats are supporting Mr. Clinton so far this year.

Even Republican Senate candidate John Seymour is distancing himself from Mr. Bush as a strategy to win. Last week, Mr. Seymour began an aggressive challenge to the Bush-supported anti-abortion plank in the party platform.

"Across the board, whether they're Republicans or Democrats, voters are looking at this juncture for leadership and a sense of confidence in their presidential candidate," said Mr. Seymour spokesman Jeff Weir. "George Bush has not been exhibiting confidence or great leadership."

Top strategists dismissed as premature rumours that the Bush campaign was writing off California.

Mr. Quayle's frequent visits to the state were scheduled to begin California Monday and Tuesday.

Mr. Bush is suffering even in the Republican stronghold south of Los Angeles.

For the president to win California, he must take Orange and San Diego counties by overwhelming margins to make up for expected losses in Democratic Los Angeles and San Francisco, observers say.

California has 54 electoral votes, one-fifth of those needed to win the presidency. The last Democrat to carry California was Lyndon Johnson in 1964.